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October 5, 2018

Select Committee on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities to hold series of hearings around the state *Hearings scheduled for Fresno Oct. 16 and Concord Oct. 24*

SACRAMENTO – Assemblymember Jim Frazier (D-Discovery Bay), chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, has announced that he plans to have the Committee hold hearings in communities around the state in the coming weeks and months to assess how Californians with I/DD are being served by the state and their local communities.

“Earlier this year Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon approved my request to establish a Select Committee specifically to serve the I/DD community,” Frazier said. “I can’t thank him enough. The Select Committee serves as a listening platform for I/DD individuals, their families and those who care for them. We want to understand the challenges they face and learn what the Legislature can do to better serve this historically under-served segment of our society. We held an initial hearing at the Capitol in August, and it was a resounding success. We heard so many voices. Now we are going to take the show on the road to hear from those who can’t travel to Sacramento.”

The first of these hearings is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m. in Fresno at City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno City St.

A 2nd hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m., in Concord at City Council Chambers, 1950 Parkside Drive.

Additional hearings are being planned for different communities around the state.

The hearings are free and open to the public.

“These hearings will serve as listening sessions, and we encourage anyone and everyone to attend and share their stories,” Frazier said.

Select Committees serve as information-gathering bodies by listening to testimony from a wide range of individuals at hearings. Often, legislation is introduced as a result of information gathered by Select Committees.

“I intend to shape my legislative package for the upcoming new session based on what we learn from these hearings,” Frazier said.

The Select Committee on Intellectual and Developmental Services is also conducting a survey of California’s 21 Regional Centers that provide services to I/DD individuals. Anyone who has an I/DD, or is a parent, guardian, or caretaker, is encouraged to complete this survey, which can be found at: <https://bit.ly/2Rs6TKg>

“The survey only takes a few minutes to complete, and the information we gather will be immensely valuable to help us assess how the State of California is doing,” Frazier said. “The survey is designed to be completed anonymously, but those who want follow up on any issues can leave their contact information.”

The Assembly Select Committee on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities is a diverse and bipartisan mix of members of the Assembly. In addition to Frazier, the committee members are Democrats Autumn Burke, Evan Low, Jose Medina, Kevin Mullin, Blanca E. Rubio and Shirley N. Weber and Republicans Heath Flora, Brian Maienschein, Chad Mayes and Marie Waldron.

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Assemblymember Frazier represents the 11th Assembly District, which includes the communities of Antioch, Bethel Island, Birds Landing, Brentwood, Byron, Collinsville, Discovery Bay, Fairfield, Isleton, Knightsen, Locke, Oakley, Pittsburg (partial), Rio Vista, Suisun City, Travis AFB, Vacaville and Walnut Grove.

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