



Government Shutdown Impacts SILC Funding - Results from Recent Survey

This report summarizes the findings from a national survey and additional research conducted to better understand how Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs) are funded and the potential risks facing SILCs under current federal budget conditions.

The goal of sharing these results is to promote a collective understanding of how SILCs are sustained across the country and to encourage collaboration on shared challenges. The intent is not comparison, but problem-solving: to identify systemic vulnerabilities, explore strategies that promote stability, and support each other in ensuring continuity of Independent Living services and advocacy across the U.S. and the territories.

Our survey results through October 31, 2025:

- 76% reported Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) as their Designated State Entity (DSE).
- A majority have a contract or MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) in place; however they also acknowledge the funding has not been appropriated.
- 47% of the states responding have been made aware of funding issues currently or by the end December if FFY2026 funds are not made available.
- 58% are facing issues due to the inability to draw down Part B funds, these answers varied in impact to both SILCs and CILs of IL Networks.

What we learned reviewing 96% of the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL):

- Data from SPILs in all but two states/territories (Alabama and American Samoa) were compiled.
- 28% of SILCs are funded only through Part B dollars.
- 22% of SILCs are funded only through Innovation & Expansion (I&E) funds.
- As a result of the budget impasse, 48% of SILCs—almost half—face furloughs and temporary closure if FFY26 appropriations are not made available by the end of November.
- Many SILCs lack reserve funds, are not allowed to carry over federal dollars from one fiscal year to the next and depend on a single federal source for all operational costs.

Sharing data is only the first step. The next step is creating space for honest, solution-driven conversations. Long term, the disjointed nature of funding for

SILCs puts us at grave risk. SILCs like other disability councils and the CILs need dedicated federal funding to ensure consistency and long-term sustainability.

Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs) are responsible for working with Centers for Independent Living, the Designated State Entity and other partners to assess the needs of people with disabilities in their state and develop the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL). SILCs must further monitor, review and evaluate the Plan regularly and report progress annually. Without a SPIL and an active SILC, states risk losing federal funds established through Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended – including both Independent Living Services grants - Part B and Part C grants to the Centers for the provision of direct services to individuals with a range of significant disabilities.

The data reflects the reality that SILCs operate within tight constraints and remain essential to advancing Independent Living values nationwide. Sharing and acting on this information together strengthens our ability to ensure SILCs remain strong, stable, and connected—even in times of fiscal uncertainty. Like the thousands of disabled people SILCs represent and serve through working with the CILs - SILCs are not done yet. We will find a way. The alternative is simply not an option.

United together,

NASILC Executive Committee



Survey Remains Open

Survey to Understand Government Shutdown Impact on SILCs. We have changed the settings to allow retaking of the survey as the Government shutdown continues. If you would like to retake the survey, please use the link below.

NASILC has a brief survey to gather information and feedback so we can better understand what different SILCs may experience during a government shutdown. While we know you may not know how things will impact your SILC at this time, we are hoping to gather information so we can be better prepared to help each other at this time.

Please take this short survey: [SILC Funding Survey](#)



National Association of Statewide Independent Living Councils | 670 Morrison Rd
#200 | Gahanna, OH 43230 US



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