



2021 Legislative Agenda

As a vigorous advocate for people with epilepsy, Epilepsy Florida (EFL) will continue to focus on promoting legislation that positively affects the lives of people with epilepsy. Through our government advocacy program, EFL will protect and advance the legal, human and service rights of people with epilepsy by being active at the Federal, State and local level.

Here are the issues on which EFL will focus our advocacy efforts during 2021:

1. Secure Greater Funding for Better Treatments and Programs
 - Advocate to the Florida Legislature and the Governor the importance of epilepsy funding and the need for funding increases to care for Floridians with epilepsy
 - Identify a new source of revenue from the State of Florida budget to replace the shrinking Seat Belt Trust Fund
 - Together with the national Epilepsy Alliance America advocate for federal funding increases for:
 - ✓ Epilepsy research at the National Institutes of Health
 - ✓ Epilepsy Programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
 - ✓ Research in the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and other agencies that include studies on the safety and efficacy of antiepilepsy drugs (AEDs), including bioequivalence research and medical cannabis
2. Improve Patient Access to Medical Care, Medications and Treatment
 - Ensure the needs of people with epilepsy are met through the Affordable Care Act
 - Advocate for reasonable access to affordable and quality epilepsy care and treatments in public and private health insurance
 - Support protections that prevent discrimination based on health status in all insurance products, including any provisions that limit access or coverage for pre-existing conditions like epilepsy
 - Doctor prescribed treatments remain available and affordable to those with epilepsy
3. Stop Stigma and Discrimination Against People with Epilepsy
 - Advocate for legislation that requires all Florida public school personnel whose duties include regular contact with students to be trained in seizure recognition and seizure first aid.
 - Work to incorporate epilepsy as a recognized disability by the State of Florida.
 - Support and protect all laws that protect the rights of people with epilepsy. With a focus on Guardianship and its regulations.