

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

Senate Human Services Committee

2021 Legislative Bill Summary

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Aging and Long Term Care

SB-107 (Wiener) - CalFresh.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services to develop a CalFresh user-centered application for seniors 60 years of age or older and for people with disabilities who are eligible to be enrolled in the Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP). It also would have given an individual the option to apply, report, and recertify for CalFresh in person, by mail, online, or by telephone, and permitted an individual to complete the interview requirement and client signature by telephone, as specified. The bill was ordered to inactive file by the author, as provisions of the bill were enacted in AB135 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 85, Statutes of 2021).

Status: Assembly-Pending Referral

SB-258 (Laird) - Aging.

This bill adds human immunodeficiency virus status to the list of noneconomic factors that restrict an individual's ability to perform normal daily tasks or that threaten capacity to live independently, in the context of greatest social need for services under the Older Californians Act.

Status: Chapter 132, Statutes of 2021

SB-460 (Pan) - Long-term health facilities: patient representatives.

This bill would have refined procedures for determining that residents of Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) and Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF) lack capacity to provide informed consent for a medical intervention. This bill also would have created the Office of the Patient Representative within the California Department of Aging to train, certify, provide, and oversee patient representatives to protect the rights of SNF and ICF residents when a medical intervention is prescribed for residents who cannot provide informed consent, as specified.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

SB-515 (Pan) - Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Benefit Task Force.

This bill would have required the California Department of Aging (CDA) to establish a Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Benefit Task Force, or utilize an existing board, commission, committee, or task force, to focus on LTSS benefit needs in the state of California. The bill would have required CDA to report to the Legislature by July 1, 2023, on the specified findings and recommendations of the LTSS Benefit Task Force.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Human Services

SB-648 (Hurtado) - Care facilities.

This bill would have established the Enriched Care Adult Residential Facility pilot program for the purpose of promoting the sustainability of essential residential care facilities that serve recipients who receive Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Program for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (SSI/SSP) benefits. Specifically, this bill would have established a monthly stipend of \$1,000 per SSI/SSP recipient residing in a qualifying licensed Adult Residential Facilities (ARFs) and Residential Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs), as specified. SB 648 was ordered to inactive file by the author, as provisions of the bill were incorporated into SB 129 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 69, Statutes of 2021). Specifically, SB 129 created the Community Care Expansion Program for the purpose of development and stabilization of RCFEs and ARFs across the state.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

SB-707 (Cortese) - Continuing care contracts.

This bill would have: (1) renamed the Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) Oversight Fund and made changes to California Department of Social Services' (CDSS) authority to adjust fees paid into the fund; (2) required a link to the approved budget for the Continuing Care Contracts Section to be posted on CDSS's Internet website; (3) authorized CDSS to require CCRC providers to submit a financial plan and quarterly financial reports under specified financial circumstances; and (4) required these documents to be distributed to the facility's resident council and prospective residents, as specified.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Rules

AB-98 (Frazier) - Health care: medical goods: reuse and redistribution.

This bill would have required the California Department of Aging (CDA) to establish a comprehensive 3-year pilot program in the counties of Contra Costa, Napa, and Solano to facilitate the reuse and redistribution of durable medical equipment and other home health supplies, as specified.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Human Services

AB-383 (Salas) - Behavioral health: older adults.

This bill would have established within the Department of Health Care Services an Older Adult Behavioral Health Services Administrator to oversee behavioral health services for older adults, as specified. The bill would have required that position be funded with administrative funds from the Mental Health Services Fund.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-499 (Blanca Rubio) - Referral source for residential care facilities for the elderly: duties.

This bill would have recast provisions of existing law that apply to a placement agency for residential care facilities for the elderly (RCFEs) to instead apply to a newly defined “referral source.” Among other things, this bill would have require referral sources to provide the senior or their representative with specified disclosures, perform background checks, and carry liability insurance. This bill also would have provided for criminal and civil penalties.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-665 (Eduardo Garcia) - Care facilities: internet access.

This bill requires residential facilities serving adults, residential care facilities for persons with chronic life-threatening illness, and residential care facilities for the elderly with existing internet service to provide residents with at least one internet access device, such as a computer, smart phone, tablet, or other device, as specified.

Status: Chapter 469, Statutes of 2021

AB-695 (Arambula) - Elder and dependent adults.

This bill would have expanded the list of housing-related supports and services under the Home Safe Program to include housing transitions; required Adult Protective Services (APS) policies and procedures to include provisions for homeless prevention and longer term housing assistance and support through the Home Safe Program; authorized county APS and the Home Safe Program to refer an individual with complex or intensive needs to the appropriate state or local agencies; reduced the age requirement for APS from 65 to 60 years of age; made APS services available to persons who are age 18 to 59 years of age with traumatic brain injuries or cognitive impairments; and required California Department of Social Services to convene a workgroup to develop and report on recommendations to create or establish a statewide APS case management or data warehouse system, among other things.

The 2021-22 budget included elements of this bill. Specifically, it included funding to expand the APS program. The budget also included trailer bill language that extends the age of eligibility for the program from 65 to 60 years old, alters the definition of “adult protective services,” and makes other changes to definitions relating to the program.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

CalFresh and Other Anti-Hunger Programs

SB-107 (Wiener) - CalFresh.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services to develop a CalFresh user-centered application for seniors 60 years of age or older and for people with disabilities who are eligible to be enrolled in the Elderly Simplified Application Project. It also would have given an individual the option to apply, report, and recertify for CalFresh in person, by mail, online, or by telephone, and permitted an individual to complete the interview requirement and client signature by telephone, as specified. The bill was ordered to inactive file by the author, as provisions of the bill were enacted in AB135 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 85, Statutes of 2021).

Status: Assembly-Pending Referral

SB-108 (Hurtado) - State Healthy Food Access Policy.

This bill would have declared that it is the established policy of the state that every human being has the right to access sufficient and healthy food, and required the California Department of Social Services, in consultation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the Department of Conservation to submit a report to the Legislature that addresses key issues related to food security in California, as specified.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-464 (Hurtado) - California Food Assistance Program: eligibility.

This bill would have made noncitizens eligible for the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) if the noncitizens satisfy all eligibility criteria for participation in CalFresh except any requirements related to immigration status. Elements of this bill were incorporated into the 2021-22 budget. Specifically, funds were provided for the “Food for All” Initiative/CFAP Expansion to begin automation changes necessary to expand CFAP to individuals regardless of immigration status. The budget also included trailer bill language stating the Legislature’s intent to begin a targeted, age-based implementation of the expansion of the CFAP regardless of immigration status upon completion of the needed automation changes.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-609 (Hurtado) - CalFresh.

This bill requires the California Department of Social Services, to the extent permitted by federal law, to include adult education and career technical education programs in the list of programs deemed to meet the student exemptions for purpose of eligibility for CalFresh benefits.

Status: Chapter 606, Statutes of 2021

AB-221 (Santiago) - Emergency food assistance.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide a disaster food assistance benefit to low-income California residents, regardless of immigration status, by contracting with nonprofit entities to issue the benefit in the form of prepaid cards, as specified. This bill would have required CDSS, in consultation with a workgroup, to author a report to provide recommendations and solutions for a permanent food assistance program for low-income California residents experiencing food insecurity, as specified.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-396 (Gabriel) - CalFresh: educational programs.

This bill requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to issue guidance to the Chancellor's Offices of the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the Office of the President of the University of California to clarify certain information related to campus-based programs that may qualify a student for an exemption to the CalFresh student rule; delineates certification application requirements for these institutions; and requires CDSS to report certain data to the Legislature and post the report on its website regarding state-approved campus-based local educational programs that increase eligibility.

Status: Chapter 461, Statutes of 2021

AB-1326 (Arambula) - Public social services: county liaison for higher education.

This bill requires a county human services agency to designate at least one employee as a staff liaison to serve as a contact for academic counselors and other professional staff at a campus of a postsecondary education institution to provide information on programs and services that may be available to students. This bill also requires the California State University and the California Community Colleges, and requests the University of California, to conduct a survey to determine the effectiveness of the county liaison position established by this bill.

Status: Chapter 570, Statutes of 2021

CalWORKS

SB-65 (Skinner) - Maternal care and services.

This bill establishes a comprehensive program to improve maternal and infant outcomes: (1) requires state and local investigating, tracking, reviewing, and reporting of maternal and infant deaths throughout the state; (2) enacts the Midwifery Workforce Training Act to increase the number of students educated and trained as certified nurse midwives and midwives prepared for service in specified neighborhoods and

communities; (3) creates a workgroup related to Medi-Cal coverage for douglas; and, (4) enhances CalWORKs benefits by eliminating the mandatory requirement to work or participate in welfare-to-work for pregnant people.

Status: Chapter 449, Statutes of 2021

SB-768 (Glazer) - CalWORKs: postsecondary education.

This bill would have expanded provisions of existing CalWORKs law to allow students of a nonprofit postsecondary education institution to receive a standard payment for books and college supplies, and make other existing program rules applicable to these students, as specified, among other changes.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Rules

AB-461 (Villapudua) - CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: self-employment.

This bill requires, for the purpose of calculating the number of hours a recipient is participating in welfare-to-work (WTW) activities pursuant to CalWORKs requirements, the number of hours for self-employment activities to be based solely on the number of hours the recipient is engaged in self-employment activities, thereby overriding current rules that require the self-employed CalWORKs recipient to be compensated at minimum wage.

Status: Chapter 582, Statutes of 2021

AB-1004 (Calderon) - CalWORKs eligibility: income exemption: census.

This bill deletes requirements that, in order to be exempt from being considered income under the CalWORKs program, income or stipends related to the decennial census must be earned on the year of or year prior to a census, so that all such income or stipends may be exempted, regardless of when it is earned, and makes those changes effective immediately.

Status: Chapter 99, Statutes of 2021

AB-1326 (Arambula) - Public social services: county liaison for higher education.

This bill requires a county human services agency to designate at least one employee as a staff liaison to serve as a contact for academic counselors and other professional staff at a campus of a postsecondary education institution to provide information on programs and services that may be available to students. This bill also requires the California State University and the California Community Colleges, and requests the University of California, to conduct a survey to determine the effectiveness of the county liaison position established by this bill.

Status: Chapter 570, Statutes of 2021

Child Care

SB-50 (Limón) - Early learning and care.

This bill would have expanded the range of types of child care and early learning services that a State Preschool contracting agency may provide.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 50 without my signature.

This bill would make a child who is between 18 months and 3 years old eligible for the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) as long as the child meets all other eligibility requirements and would extend eligibility for federal and state subsidized child care services to a family in which a member of that family has been certified as eligible to receive benefits from other means-tested government programs.

Expanding access to high quality early learning and care for babies and toddlers is a priority for my Administration. That's why I worked to make universal transitional kindergarten a reality, strengthen our paid family leave policies, and expand child care slots for children in California. Unfortunately, the timing of this bill is premature as it presupposes how the State Preschool Program will be modified to account for the implementation of universal transitional kindergarten. Next January, modifications will be proposed to the State Preschool Program in the 2022 Budget to align the program with the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care.

I appreciate the author's leadership on this issue and look forward to working with her on improving the State Preschool Program and serving more of California's youngest children.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-246 (Leyva) - Early childhood education: reimbursement rates.

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services to establish a single reimbursement rate for early learning and care programs, including variation for regional costs and quality adjustment factors.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-393 (Hurtado) - Migrant Childcare and Development Programs.

This bill aligns the funding structure for the migrant childcare alternative payment program (voucher) with other voucher programs by shifting the reimbursement rate for migrant childcare alternative payment programs from the Standard Reimbursement Rate to the Regional Market Rate. This bill also expands reimbursement allowances to include additional costs.

Status: Chapter 499, Statutes of 2021

AB-22 (McCarty) - Childcare: preschool programs and transitional kindergarten: enrollment: funding.

This bill would have required any increases in student enrollment for transitional kindergarten to be funded with General Fund appropriations outside of the Proposition 98 guarantee. This bill also would have required an additional adjustment to the kindergarten and grades 1 to 3 base grant equal to 14.2 percent for transitional kindergarten, and required county superintendents of school to convene local transitional kindergarten planning workgroups to support the implementation of transitional kindergarten.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-92 (Reyes) - Preschool and childcare and development services: family fees.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to convene a subsidized child care workgroup to develop a fee schedule for low-income families, exempted certain low-income families from family fees, and waived family fees for all families until October 31, 2023.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-670 (Calderon) - Child abuse or neglect: minor and nonminor dependent parents.

This bill requires, when a report alleging abuse or neglect of the child of a dependent of the juvenile court is made, the agency that received the report to notify the attorney representing the dependent within 36 hours; prohibits the court from declining to offer reunification services in certain instances where a minor or nonminor dependent (NMD) parent is involved; and, requires a social worker or probation officer to use a strengths-based approach to supporting a minor or NMD parent in providing a safe and permanent home for their child.

Status: Chapter 585, Statutes of 2021

AB-865 (Quirk-Silva) - Childcare services: alternative payment programs: direct deposits: reserve funds.

This bill would have required alternative payment programs (APPs) to reimburse child care providers based on the maximum certified hours of need, rather than actual hours of care provided, and increased the percentage of funds APPs may retain as reserves.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 865 without my signature.

This bill requires alternative payment programs (APP) to reimburse child care providers based on the maximum certified hours of need rather than attendance, and amends statute regarding verification of provider rates, APP fund reserves, and acceptable forms of signature.

In recognition of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on child care providers, I have provided substantial funding over the last two budgets so providers are reimbursed based on enrollment, not on attendance. However, I cannot support a permanent extension of that policy at this time, as it will result in significant ongoing General Fund cost pressures in the tens of millions of dollars that were not included in the state's current spending plan.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1294 (Quirk) - Childcare: individualized county childcare subsidy plans.

This bill, an urgency measure, extends the authority for the individualized county child care pilot program for the County of Santa Clara to continue by one year, from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2023.

Status: Chapter 497, Statutes of 2021

AB-1326 (Arambula) - Public social services: county liaison for higher education.

This bill requires a county human services agency to designate at least one employee as a staff liaison to serve as a contact for academic counselors and other professional staff at a campus of a postsecondary education institution to provide information on programs and services that may be available to students. This bill also requires the

California State University and the California Community Colleges, and requests the University of California, to conduct a survey to determine the effectiveness of the county liaison position established by this bill.

Status: Chapter 570, Statutes of 2021

AB-1363 (Luz Rivas) - Childcare: dual language learners.

This bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to develop procedures for State Preschool contractors to identify and report data on dual language learners, and requires the SPI to develop implementation procedures and related guidance for contractors.

Status: Chapter 498, Statutes of 2021

Child Welfare, Foster Care, Adoptions

SB-100 (Hurtado) - Extended foster care program working group.

This bill requires the California Department of Social Services to convene a working group to examine the extended foster care program and make recommendations for improvements to the program, as provided.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-228 (Leyva) - Public postsecondary education: support services for foster youth: Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program.

This bill would have expanded eligibility for priority enrollment for current and former foster youth at the University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges (CCCs). This bill also would have expanded eligibility for a student support program for current and former foster youth at the CCCs by lowering the age in care requirement from 16 to 13, thus increasing the number of eligible youth. This bill was held on the Senate floor, but the provisions described above were amended into SB 512 (Min, Chapter 574, Statutes of 2021), which was signed into law.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

SB-354 (Skinner) - Foster youth: relative placement.

This bill adopts changes to the criminal background check process during the resource family approval (RFA) process for relatives of children placed in the child welfare system; permits the court to authorize placement of children with relatives in certain circumstances, regardless of the status of any criminal exemption or RFA; and, requires, no later than January 1, 2024, the California Department of Social Services to submit a report to the Legislature related to criminal record exemptions as specified. This bill's changes to previously non-exemptible crimes apply only to the placement of a

specific child or child, and are prohibited from being transferable for the placement of another child or children, as specified.

Status: Chapter 687, Statutes of 2021

SB-537 (Rubio) - Child welfare: domestic violence.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services to convene a workgroup to examine, and produce a report on, the intersection of the child welfare system and domestic violence and the impacts of child welfare policy on families experiencing domestic violence.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

SB-546 (Wilk) - Communications: lifeline universal service.

This bill would have required the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to continue the foster youth program, initiated by the CPUC as the iFoster pilot program, as an element of the Lifeline Program, to subsidize the cost of smartphones and monthly service to eligible foster youth, and provided parameters and authorities to the CPUC in administering the program.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-584 (Jones) - Resource Family Approval Program.

This bill expands existing mandatory training for resource families and resource family applicants to include information on providing care and supervision to children who have been victims of child labor trafficking, as specified.

Status: Chapter 548, Statutes of 2021

SB-739 (Cortese) - California Universal Basic Income for Transition Age Youth pilot project.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), beginning January 1, 2022, and until December 31, 2025, to administer the California Universal Basic Income for Transition-Age Youth pilot project with the goal of improving outcomes for foster youth, and required CDSS to provide a report to the Legislature detailing certain outcomes for program participants, models utilized, and measures specific to the objectives of the program, as specified. A similar proposal was passed through the 2021 budget; for more details see SB 153 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 86, Statutes of 2021).

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-46 (Luz Rivas) - California Youth Empowerment Act.

This bill creates the California Youth Empowerment Act to address, among other issues, the growing need to engage youth directly with policymakers. In addition, the bill establishes the California Youth Empowerment Commission in state government for the

main purpose of providing meaningful opportunities for civic engagement to improve the quality of life for California's disconnected and disadvantaged youth.

Status: Chapter 660, Statutes of 2021

AB-226 (Ramos) - Children's crisis psychiatric residential treatment facilities.

This bill would have reclassified children's crisis residential programs as children's crisis psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTFs) and transferred responsibility for licensing PRTFs from the California Department of Social Services to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). This bill would have also required DHCS to begin the approval process for PRTFs, contingent upon an appropriation in the Budget Act, no later than January 1, 2022.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 226 without my signature.

This bill would eliminate Children's Crisis Residential Programs (CCRPs) under the purview of the Department of Social Services and instead create Children's Crisis Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (CCPRTFs) under the purview of the Department of Health Care Services, to provide intensive mental health care for children and youth, including those in foster care.

It is important that all California youth receive the mental health services and supports they need. My Administration has made it a priority to transform California's children and youth behavioral health system into one in which all children and youth are routinely screened, supported, and served for emerging and existing behavioral health needs, and is working to implement transformative investments in the 2021-22 Budget that further this cause.

AB 226 presents implementation challenges that cannot be overlooked or easily overcome. First, the bill would eliminate CCRPs, a Medicaid State Plan service the state is obligated to provide, creating a gap in the continuum of care for children and youth. Second, the bill does not appropriately identify the roles of the Department of Health Care Services, the county Mental Health Plans, and the California Department of Public Health in federally certifying the proposed CCPRTF program. Finally, should CCPRTFs be authorized as a treatment option, it is critical to develop adequate safeguards so children are not in CCPRTFs any longer than necessary. These safeguards are not included in this bill.

My Administration looks forward to working with the Legislature and stakeholders before the Legislature reconvenes on a proposed solution that is in the best interest of all youth experiencing mental health crises.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-260 (Stone) - Guardianships.

This bill (1) establishes processes to ensure abused or neglected children are not improperly diverted into probate guardianships in lieu of the foster care system, and (2) requires the Judicial Council to develop a form regarding the differences between probate guardianships and the foster care system, as specified.

Status: Chapter 578, Statutes of 2021

AB-317 (Patterson) - Foster care.

This bill strengthens the role of the Office of the Foster Care Ombudsperson's (OFCO) by expanding the role of the OFCO and clarifying their responsibilities. These changes include clarifying the Ombudsperson's authority to: enter and inspect premises, as specified; review and copy licensing and administrative records, policies, and documents; interview witness; observe proceedings and attend hearings; formally resolve complaints; and submit written correction plans to contractors with the state or local agencies, among other things.

Status: Chapter 293, Statutes of 2021

AB-366 (Blanca Rubio) - Foster youth: placement of siblings.

This bill makes changes to existing law to increase a county agency's ability to place siblings together. Specifically, this bill establishes a presumption that an approved resource family has the size and space to place siblings together if each child has an age-appropriate place to sleep and there are no other safety risks, and allows a licensing agency to authorize a foster family home to provide care for an unlimited number of related foster children for the purpose of placing siblings or half siblings together in foster care, provided specified conditions are met.

Status: Chapter 581, Statutes of 2021

AB-477 (Blanca Rubio) - Child abuse multidisciplinary personnel team: children's advocacy centers.

This bill provides that if a county utilizes a child advocacy center (CAC) to implement their local multidisciplinary response to investigate reports of child abuse or neglect, the

CAC may be included in the county child abuse multidisciplinary personnel team (MDT); and allows, in the case of an Indian child, for a representative from a child's tribe to be included in the county's MDT.

Status: Chapter 93, Statutes of 2021

AB-546 (Maienschein) - Dependent children: documents: housing.

This bill adds information regarding housing assistance to the list of information that a county welfare department must provide to a foster youth and must report to the juvenile court, at the review hearing prior to a foster youth's 18th birthday, and at every regularly scheduled hearing thereafter.

Status: Chapter 519, Statutes of 2021

AB-592 (Friedman) - Foster youth: transitional housing.

This bill expands the scope of a host family within the foster care system to include supervised transitional housing services provided by a transitional housing placement (THP) provider; permits a host family to include certain approved placements and declares that those placements, when operating as a host family, do not require additional certification; and expands the definition of a Supervised Independent Living Setting (SILS) to include a transitional housing unit in which a host family lives with a nonminor dependent (NMD). This bill also allows a THP provider, as defined, to provide supportive services to an NMD placed in a certified family home or resource family of a foster family agency, as provided, and allows a county to elect to allow a THP provider to provide services to a youth in SILS.

Status: Chapter 702, Statutes of 2021

AB-640 (Cooley) - Extended foster care: eligibility redetermination.

This bill creates, with respect to foster youth who were ineligible for federal foster care funds before they turned 18, a process that triggers a new eligibility determination if they receive extended foster care after turning 18.

Status: Chapter 622, Statutes of 2021

AB-674 (Bennett) - Dependent children: documents.

This bill requires, as part of a report a county welfare department must make to a juvenile court judge before a foster youth reaches age 18, the department to verify that it has provided the youth with written information relating to CalFresh benefits.

Status: Chapter 524, Statutes of 2021

AB-788 (Calderon) - Juveniles: reunification.

This bill clarifies the meaning of "resisted" for the purposes of existing law which enables a juvenile dependency court to deny reunification services for a parent who has a history of drug or alcohol abuse and has resisted court-ordered treatment.

Status: Chapter 201, Statutes of 2021

AB-829 (Levine) - Foster children: immigration counsel.

This bill requires a county to make best efforts to provide undocumented minors and non-minor dependents in foster care under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court with access to immigration legal services. Additionally, this bill requires counties to submit reports to the California Department of Social Services regarding the process of identifying and meeting the needs of undocumented youth in their county, as specified.

Status: Chapter 528, Statutes of 2021

AB-873 (Ramos) - Child welfare services: Indian tribes.

This bill eliminates tribal share of cost requirements for an agreement entered into by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) with a tribe, tribal consortium, or tribal organization regarding care and custody of Indian children and jurisdiction over Indian child custody proceedings and strikes existing law related to the breakdown of the tribal share of costs, as provided.

Status: Chapter 284, Statutes of 2021

AB-1051 (Bennett) - Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services: foster youth.

This bill would have prohibited the presumptive transfer from applying to foster youth placed in a group home or a short-term residential therapeutic program outside of the county of original jurisdiction, unless an exception is invoked, as specified; established contracting options and notification requirements for county mental health plans and specialty mental health services providers; and required the Department of Health Care Services and the California Department of Social Services to collect and make available certain data related to the presumptive transfer of foster youth.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-1055 (Ramos) - Foster youth: tribal pupils.

This bill modifies the definition of “students in foster care” to eliminate the requirement that a dependent child of the court of an Indian tribe also meets the definition of a dependent child of a county court, and to include a child of an Indian tribe who is the subject of a voluntary placement agreement.

Status: Chapter 287, Statutes of 2021

AB-1140 (Robert Rivas) - Foster care: rights.

This bill clarifies that the duties of the California Department of Social Services include protecting the rights of children who are in state-licensed foster facilities and homes while in the custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the federal Department of Health and Human Services. This bill also clarifies that the duties of the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson includes investigating and attempting to resolve complaints made by or on behalf of these children.

Status: Chapter 297, Statutes of 2021

AB-1283 (Stone) - Resource families: hearings.

This bill facilitates further implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform of the foster care system as it relates to criminal background checks for tribally approved homes, the appeals process for resource family applicants, and temporary exclusions from community care facilities.

Status: Chapter 288, Statutes of 2021

Community Care Licensing

SB-434 (Bates) - Substance abuse and mental health services: advertising and marketing.

This bill prohibits a licensed psychiatric or mental health facility, as specified, from making false statements or providing false information in advertising or marketing.

Status: Chapter 447, Statutes of 2021

SB-460 (Pan) - Long-term health facilities: patient representatives.

This bill would have refined procedures for determining that residents of Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) and Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF) lack capacity to provide informed consent for a medical intervention. This bill also would have created the Office of the Patient Representative within the California Department of Aging to train, certify, provide, and oversee patient representatives to protect the rights of SNF and ICF residents when a medical intervention is prescribed for residents who cannot provide informed consent, as specified.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

SB-648 (Hurtado) - Care facilities.

This bill would have established the Enriched Care Adult Residential Facility pilot program for the purpose of promoting the sustainability of essential residential care facilities that serve recipients who receive Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Program for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (SSI/SSP) benefits. Specifically, this bill would have established a monthly stipend of \$1,000 per SSI/SSP recipient residing in a qualifying licensed Adult Residential Facilities (ARFs) and Residential Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs), as specified. SB 648 was ordered to inactive file by the author, as provisions of the bill were incorporated into SB 129 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 69, Statutes of 2021). Specifically, SB 129 created the Community Care Expansion Program for the purpose of development and stabilization of RCFEs and ARFs across the state.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-22 (McCarty) - Childcare: preschool programs and transitional kindergarten: enrollment: funding.

This bill would have required any increases in student enrollment for transitional kindergarten to be funded with General Fund appropriations outside of the Proposition 98 guarantee. This bill also would have required an additional adjustment to the kindergarten and grades 1 to 3 base grant equal to 14.2 percent for transitional kindergarten, and required county superintendents of school to convene local transitional kindergarten planning workgroups to support the implementation of transitional kindergarten.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-665 (Eduardo Garcia) - Care facilities: internet access.

This bill requires residential facilities serving adults, residential care facilities for persons with chronic life-threatening illness, and residential care facilities for the elderly with existing internet service to provide residents with at least one internet access device, such as a computer, smart phone, tablet, or other device, as specified.

Status: Chapter 469, Statutes of 2021

AB-808 (Stone) - Foster youth.

This bill would have proposed numerous changes to address the continuum of care needs of high acuity foster youth, including the creation of a of a Specialized Foster Home to provide 24-hour care for foster children that is in the residence of the foster parent(s) with enhanced care and supervision provided by foster parent(s) that have completed specialized training, as provided; placed additional responsibilities on the Joint Interagency Resolution Team and required the Team to make specified recommendations to the legislature, as provided; created a five-year children's crisis continuum pilot program, as provided; among other things. This bill was held in the Senate Health Committee at the author's request due to the provisions of the bill being included in SB 153 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 86, Statutes of 2021).

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Health

Developmental Services or Rehabilitative Services

SB-107 (Wiener) - CalFresh.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to develop a CalFresh user-centered application for seniors 60 years of age or older and for people with disabilities who are eligible to be enrolled in the Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP). It also would have given an individual the option to apply, report, and recertify for CalFresh in person, by mail, online, or by telephone, and permitted an individual to complete the interview requirement and client signature by

telephone, as specified. The bill was ordered to inactive file by the author, as provisions of the bill were enacted in AB135 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 85, Statutes of 2021).

Status: Assembly-Pending Referral

SB-639 (Durazo) - Minimum wages: persons with disabilities.

This bill requires the development of a plan to phase out the use of the subminimum wage certificate program, which authorizes employers to pay less than minimum wage for employees with physical or mental disabilities, as defined, by January 1, 2025. This bill requires the plan be posted online and reported to the Legislature by January 1, 2024. This bill further requires that no new licenses for the subminimum wage certificate program be issued beginning January 1, 2022 and requires existing license holders to meet benchmarks provided for in the phaseout plan in order to be relicensed.

Status: Chapter 339, Statutes of 2021

AB-445 (Calderon) - Developmental services: information collection.

This bill repeals the requirement that regional centers, which provide services and supports to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, collect the social security number of the parents of each consumer of those services and supports.

Status: Chapter 149, Statutes of 2021

AB-813 (Mullin) - Developmental services: service outcome pilot project.

This bill would have required the State Department of Developmental Services to establish a pilot project to develop metrics and methods of data collection to evaluate the outcomes of services authorized by Regional Centers and provided through an approved vendor. The proposed pilot project would include at least three Regional Centers and would sunset on January 1, 2027.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-1417 (Frazier) - Community colleges: providers of care for individuals with developmental disabilities: model curriculum for certification program.

This bill would have required the California Community College Chancellor's Office to develop a model curriculum for a certification program for providers of care for individuals with developmental disabilities, designed to be offered at community college campuses where there is sufficient student interest and properly qualified faculty to sustain such a program. This bill was not heard by this committee.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Education

Disaster and State of Emergency Assistance

AB-221 (Santiago) - Emergency food assistance.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide a disaster food assistance benefit to low-income California residents, regardless of immigration status, by contracting with nonprofit entities to issue the benefit in the form of prepaid cards, as specified. This bill would have required CDSS, in consultation with a workgroup, to author a report to provide recommendations and solutions for a permanent food assistance program for low-income California residents experiencing food insecurity, as specified.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

Homelessness Assistance

SB-678 (Rubio) - Unaccompanied Women Experiencing Homelessness Act of 2021.

This bill would have established “unaccompanied women” as a sub-population of the state’s homeless population and would have required the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to set measurable goals to prevent and end homelessness among unaccompanied women in the state.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-695 (Arambula) - Elder and dependent adults.

This bill would have expanded the list of housing-related supports and services under the Home Safe Program to include housing transitions; required Adult Protective Services (APS) policies and procedures to include provisions for homeless prevention and longer term housing assistance and support through the Home Safe Program; authorized county APS and the Home Safe Program to refer an individual with complex or intensive needs to the appropriate state or local agencies; reduced the age requirement for APS from 65 to 60 years of age; made APS services available to persons who are age 18 to 59 years of age with traumatic brain injuries or cognitive impairments; and required California Department of Social Services to convene a workgroup to develop and report on recommendations to create or establish a statewide APS case management or data warehouse system, among other things.

The 2021-22 budget included elements of this bill. Specifically, it included funding to expand the APS program. The budget also included trailer bill language that extends the age of eligibility for the program from 65 to 60 years old, alters the definition of “adult protective services,” and makes other changes to definitions relating to the program.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-816 (Chiu) - State and local agencies: homelessness plan: Housing Trust Fund: housing projects.

This bill requires the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to allocate National Housing Trust Fund monies to projects serving individuals experiencing homelessness, to the extent that a sufficient number of projects exist. Specifically, this bill authorizes HCD to prioritize funding for projects serving people experiencing homelessness that use Medi-Cal benefits to fund services.

Status: Chapter 396, Statutes of 2021

AB-977 (Gabriel) - Homelessness program data reporting: Homeless Management Information System.

This bill requires grantees or entities that receive funding from a state homeless program or programs to report specified data to the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council on the populations they serve.

Status: Chapter 397, Statutes of 2021

AB-1220 (Luz Rivas) - Homelessness: California Interagency Council on Homelessness.

This bill renames the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) as the Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH), reconstitutes its membership, and requires it to consult with a specified advisory group of stakeholders.

Status: Chapter 398, Statutes of 2021

AB-1326 (Arambula) - Public social services: county liaison for higher education.

This bill requires a county human services agency to designate at least one employee as a staff liaison to serve as a contact for academic counselors and other professional staff at a campus of a postsecondary education institution to provide information on programs and services that may be available to students. This bill also requires the California State University and the California Community Colleges, and requests the University of California, to conduct a survey to determine the effectiveness of the county liaison position established by this bill.

Status: Chapter 570, Statutes of 2021

Immigration

SB-464 (Hurtado) - California Food Assistance Program: eligibility.

This bill would have made noncitizens eligible for the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) if the noncitizens satisfy all eligibility criteria for participation in CalFresh except any requirements related to immigration status. Elements of this bill

were incorporated into the 2021-22 budget. Specifically, funds were provided for the “Food for All” Initiative/CFAP Expansion to begin automation changes necessary to expand CFAP to individuals regardless of immigration status. The budget also included trailer bill language stating the Legislature’s intent to begin a targeted, age-based implementation of the expansion of the CFAP regardless of immigration status upon completion of the needed automation changes.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-558 (Caballero) - Farmworker Disaster Relief Planning Task Force.

This bill would have established the Farmworker Disaster Relief Planning Task Force (Task Force) in the Office of Emergency Services and specifies membership of the Task Force. This bill would have required the Task Force to examine the needs of farmworkers, their families, and their communities for immediate, intermediate, and long-term sustainable and equitable access to health care, safety net services, protections, and other social and economic relief during pandemics and disasters. This bill would have also required the Task Force, on or before January 1, 2023, to report its findings and recommendations to state agencies, the Legislature, and the Governor.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-47 (Reyes) - Human services: coordinated immigration support services.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to establish a program to provide grants to qualified nonprofit organizations for multi-tiered and coordinated immigration support services for undocumented and mixed status families who reside in the state and who were separated by the federal government’s “zero-tolerance” policy. This bill further would have required the services funded under the program include a centralized warmline and case management services that connect families to a variety of trauma-informed services, as provided. Finally, the bill would have required a qualified nonprofit that receives grant funding to submit an annual report to CDSS regarding the number of individuals served and the services provided.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-221 (Santiago) - Emergency food assistance.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide a disaster food assistance benefit to low-income California residents, regardless of immigration status, by contracting with nonprofit entities to issue the benefit in the form of prepaid cards, as specified. This bill would have required CDSS, in consultation with a workgroup, to author a report to provide recommendations and solutions for a permanent food assistance program for low-income California residents experiencing food insecurity, as specified.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-829 (Levine) - Foster children: immigration counsel.

This bill requires a county to make best efforts to provide undocumented minors and non-minor dependents in foster care under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court with access to immigration legal services. Additionally, this bill requires counties to submit reports to the California Department of Social Services regarding the process of identifying and meeting the needs of undocumented youth in their county, as specified.

Status: Chapter 528, Statutes of 2021

AB-941 (Bennett) - Farmworker assistance: resource centers.

This bill requires, upon appropriation by the Legislature, the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) to establish a grant program for counties to establish farmworker resource centers that will provide farmworkers and their families information and access to services related to, among other things, labor and employment rights, education, housing, immigration, and health and human services, as specified. This bill also requires the CSD to convene and facilitate a workgroup to assist in the establishment and administration of the grant program, as specified.

Status: Chapter 203, Statutes of 2021

AB-1140 (Robert Rivas) - Foster care: rights.

This bill clarifies that the duties of the California Department of Social Services include protecting the rights of children who are in state-licensed foster facilities and homes while in the custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the federal Department of Health and Human Services. This bill also clarifies that the duties of the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson includes investigating and attempting to resolve complaints made by or on behalf of these children.

Status: Chapter 297, Statutes of 2021

AB-1326 (Arambula) - Public social services: county liaison for higher education.

This bill requires a county human services agency to designate at least one employee as a staff liaison to serve as a contact for academic counselors and other professional staff at a campus of a postsecondary education institution to provide information on programs and services that may be available to students. This bill also requires the California State University and the California Community Colleges, and requests the University of California, to conduct a survey to determine the effectiveness of the county liaison position established by this bill.

Status: Chapter 570, Statutes of 2021

AB-1368 (Calderon) - Social services for persons granted asylum.

This bill would have created the Enhanced Services Program for Asylees (ESPA) to provide resettlement services for persons granted political asylum to reside in California and further specified program requirements, including culturally specific and responsive case management services for up to 90 days. This bill would have also allowed an agency that has been designated by a county to implement social services for refugees to also provide social services for persons granted asylum under the ESPA.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-1461 (Reyes) - Human services: noncitizen victims.

This bill would have provided that applicants who have completed their formal application with the appropriate federal agency for status or relief under the federal Violence Against Women Act, special immigrant juvenile status, or asylum status are eligible for certain public social services and health care services that are authorized in current law to certain noncitizen survivors of trafficking and serious crimes. Additionally, this bill would have included noncitizen children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned within the meaning of noncitizen survivors of serious crimes.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1461 without my signature.

This bill would codify existing practices of the Trafficking and Crime Victim Assistance Program, and would expand the population eligible to receive these benefits to include those who have applied for immigration relief under the Violence Against Women Act, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, or asylum status.

While I share the author's goal of ensuring that vulnerable populations have the resources necessary to meet their needs while they await adjudication of their application for immigration relief, bills with a significant fiscal impact, such as this, are best considered in the annual budget process.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

Public Services, Social Services & other Human Services

SB-108 (Hurtado) - State Healthy Food Access Policy.

This bill would have declared that it is the established policy of the state that every human being has the right to access sufficient and healthy food, and required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), in consultation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the Department of Conservation (DOC) to submit a report to the Legislature that addresses key issues related to food security in California, as specified.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

SB-497 (Limón) - Qualifying accounts for direct deposit of publically administered funds.

This bill revises the definition of qualifying accounts that can receive direct deposits related to unemployment compensation, child support, and other public assistance payments and requires the Employment Development Department to additionally provide direct deposit options for recipients of disability or family temporary disability insurance benefits, as specified.

Status: Chapter 546, Statutes of 2021

SB-537 (Rubio) - Child welfare: domestic violence.

This bill would have required the California Department of Social Services to convene a workgroup to examine, and produce a report on, the intersection of the child welfare system and domestic violence and the impacts of child welfare policy on families experiencing domestic violence.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

SB-549 (Jones) - Social workers: essential workers.

This bill would have required social workers, if they are deemed essential workers during a state of emergency declared by the Governor, as provided, to receive emergency materials, including, but not limited to, personal protective equipment, medicines, and any and all other health and safety equipment and gear necessary to fulfill their critical work. This bill would have taken effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 549 without my signature.

This bill would require social workers, if they are deemed essential workers during a

state of emergency declared by the Governor, to be included in the first group of essential workers who are eligible to receive emergency materials and personal protective equipment (PPE).

Social workers provide vital services to children, families, and individuals and are a critical support during emergencies and disasters. It is imperative that they have the PPE necessary to do their jobs safely.

Existing law already protects and prioritizes essential workers, including social workers, for PPE distribution. Given uncertain and changing conditions in emergencies, this prioritization must be done in a manner that preserves flexibility for emergency response during a state of emergency.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-558 (Caballero) - Farmworker Disaster Relief Planning Task Force.

This bill would have established the Farmworker Disaster Relief Planning Task Force (Task Force) in the Office of Emergency Services and specified membership of the Task Force. This bill would have required the Task Force to examine the needs of farmworkers, their families, and their communities for immediate, intermediate, and long-term sustainable and equitable access to health care, safety net services, protections, and other social and economic relief during pandemics and disasters. This bill would have also required the Task Force, on or before January 1, 2023, to report its findings and recommendations to state agencies, the Legislature, and the Governor.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

SB-648 (Hurtado) - Care facilities.

This bill would have established the Enriched Care Adult Residential Facility pilot program for the purpose of promoting the sustainability of essential residential care facilities that serve recipients who receive Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Program for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (SSI/SSP) benefits. Specifically, this bill would have established a monthly stipend of \$1,000 per SSI/SSP recipient residing in a qualifying licensed Adult Residential Facilities (ARFs) and Residential Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs), as specified. SB 648 was ordered to inactive file by the author, as provisions of the bill were incorporated into SB 129 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 69, Statutes of 2021). Specifically,

SB 129 created the Community Care Expansion Program for the purpose of development and stabilization of RCFEs and ARFs across the state.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-46 (Luz Rivas) - California Youth Empowerment Act.

This bill creates the California Youth Empowerment Act to address, among other issues, the growing need to engage youth directly with policymakers. In addition, the bill establishes the California Youth Empowerment Commission in state government for the main purpose of providing meaningful opportunities for civic engagement to improve the quality of life for California's disconnected and disadvantaged youth.

Status: Chapter 660, Statutes of 2021

AB-889 (Gipson) - Business entities: landlords: reporting requirements.

This bill would have created a series of notification requirements that would be required when a grocery establishment plans to close the establishment. The bill also would have required a city to keep track of the grocery establishment closures in its jurisdiction, identify any trends in grocery establishment closures, and address reasons for the closures if findings suggest the possible need for intervention by the city.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Judiciary

AB-941 (Bennett) - Farmworker assistance: resource centers.

This bill requires, upon appropriation by the Legislature, the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) to establish a grant program for counties to establish farmworker resource centers that will provide farmworkers and their families information and access to services related to, among other things, labor and employment rights, education, housing, immigration, and health and human services, as specified. This bill also requires the CSD to convene and facilitate a workgroup to assist in the establishment and administration of the grant program, as specified.

Status: Chapter 203, Statutes of 2021

AB-1326 (Arambula) - Public social services: county liaison for higher education.

This bill requires a county human services agency to designate at least one employee as a staff liaison to serve as a contact for academic counselors and other professional staff at a campus of a postsecondary education institution to provide information on programs and services that may be available to students. This bill also requires the California State University and the California Community Colleges, and requests the University of California, to conduct a survey to determine the effectiveness of the county liaison position established by this bill.

Status: Chapter 570, Statutes of 2021