

Assembly Committee on Human Services

2017-18

Legislative Bill Summary



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*Title as introduced.

**ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
BLANCA E. RUBIO, CHAIR**

2017-18 LEGISLATIVE BILL SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Assembly Committee on Human Services has jurisdiction over programs and services designed to assist the state’s most vulnerable populations, including children who have been abused or neglected, people with disabilities, low-income families, and the elderly. During the 2017-18 Legislative Session, 188 bills were referred to and maintained by the Committee, 112 were passed by the Legislature, and 94 became law.

A complete summary of bills referred to the Human Services Committee during the 2017-18 Legislative Session follows.

CALFRESH

AB 164 (Arambula) Food assistance.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have, as of July 1, 2018, required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to develop a benefit issuance mechanism to respond to the changing needs of food assistance, while providing DSS with the flexibility to provide benefits to certain populations in order to supplement inadequate federal benefits, promote health, or provide nutrition assistance to Californians who are ineligible for federal nutrition assistance. This bill would have required the mechanism to issue benefits through the electronic benefit transfer (EBT) system and comply with applicable state and federal law to ensure privacy and confidentiality. This bill would have specified that the provided benefits would not replace any federal funding available for similar purposes, and would have required the benefits created by the provisions of the bill to be provided upon appropriation of funds by the Legislature.

AB 167 (Lackey) CalWORKs: CalFresh: semiannual reporting.

Held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee (not heard).

This bill would have deleted the requirement that a county welfare agency administered certificate of eligibility contain information on children receiving aid, and would have instead required a county welfare agency to use a blank semiannual report form or prepopulated renewal form in order to streamline the recertification process for the CalWORKs and CalFresh programs.

AB 214 (Weber) Postsecondary education: student hunger.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 134, Statutes of 2017.

This bill defines “on-campus food vendors” in statute as any vendor that does not sell prepared food for onsite consumption or who sells food from a mobile facility, and defines “qualifying food facility” as a facility that sells prepared food for onsite consumption. This bill states that a student,

for purposes of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) student eligibility, is determined to attend at least half-time during any semester or term in which he or she enrolls in school in at least half the required number of credits that are needed each term in order to graduate within four years. This bill also requires the California Student Aid Commission to notify any Cal Grant recipient whose grant includes any funding from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant or state match, so that the student may verify that he or she qualifies for exemption from CalFresh student eligibility rules. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to maintain an identified list of programs that students may attend in order to qualify for a CalFresh eligibility exemption, and instructs DSS to issue instructions to county welfare agencies to verify CalFresh student eligibility exemptions for students who meet certain criteria. This bill also defines “anticipating participation” in work-study to mean instances when a student can reasonably expect or foresee being assigned a work-study job, and deems a student to be anticipating participation on work-study until he or she receives notice from the school that he or she has been denied work-study participation. This bill requires DSS to implement the provisions of this bill no later than October 1, 2018.

AB 323 (Berman) CalFresh: emergency food provider referrals.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 68, Statutes of 2017.

This bill allows a county human services agency to provide a referral to the local agency authorized for the use of the 2-1-1 dial code to offer information on emergency food providers and supplemental food assistance providers rather than providing a list of emergency food providers if the county determines that to be the most appropriate method to serve an applicant or recipient.

AB 415 (Chiu and Reyes) CalFresh: employment social enterprises.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 340, Statutes of 2017.

This bill allows the Department of Social Services (DSS) to contract with employment social enterprises, and defines an employment social enterprise as a social purpose corporation that earns 52% or more of its revenue from production or assembly of goods or the provision of services, whose mission is to provide employment and on-the-job and life skills training to a labor force, and is comprised of 80% or more participants who face barriers to employment. This bill defines an individual participant who faces multiple barriers to employment as an individual who has employment barriers, is or has been homeless, or is an out-of-school youth. This bill allows DSS to contract with an entity that provides services for CalFresh Employment & Training (CFET) program services that are allowable for partial federal reimbursement. This bill also allows DSS to act as the state entity for receipt of federal reimbursement on behalf of the entity provided that the entity meets certain criteria. This bill requires DSS to seek any necessary county consultation in order to implement the provisions of the bill, and allows a county to contract with an employment social enterprise or designated intermediary to provide services to its CFET program participants. This bill also requires DSS, no later than June 1, 2018, to work with the County Welfare Directors Association of California to issue guidance to counties participating in CFET program services of any special considerations for partnering with employment social enterprises.

AB 563 (Arambula) CalFresh Employment and Training program.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 343, Statutes of 2017.

This bill includes individuals subject to the able-bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD) time limit among those individuals who are deferred from mandatory participation in CalFresh Employment & Training (CFET) programs. This bill expands the list of CFET components a county may offer and for which it is required to demonstrate the effective use of funds, and maintains the ability of the Department of Social Services (DSS) to enter into an agreement with an organization, institution, or agency to act as a state entity for receipt of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training reimbursement. This bill also requires DSS to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of this bill by January 1, 2019.

AB 607 (Gloria) Public social services: disaster assistance services.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 501, Statutes of 2017.

This bill establishes the “Community Resiliency and Disaster Preparedness Act of 2017” to provide for expanded and improved disaster readiness and response in the CalWORKs and CalFresh programs through adopting a number of changes, including, among other things: prohibiting in certain circumstances residence from being deemed lost in the state if a recipient of public services is prevented from returning by displacement due to disaster declared by the Governor or President of the United States; requiring good cause for receipt of the CalWORKs temporary shelter special needs benefit to include that a family is homeless as a direct and primary result of a state or federally declared natural disaster; requiring the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the county human services agency to make a request to operate a federal Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) for the regions affected by a major disaster in the event the President of the United States issues a major disaster declaration for individual assistance for those regions and requiring that request to include a waiver request to provide automatic mass replacement benefits to eligible households and to allow households to purchase hot meals with their benefits; and making Legislative findings and declarations related to the additional funding that DSS will require to implement provisions of this bill, and requiring that an amount necessary to cover the disaster assistance services called for by this bill be continuously appropriated to DSS from the General Fund, not to exceed \$300,000 per disaster declaration.

AB 625 (Quirk-Silva) CalFresh.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services to submit a request to the United States Department of Agriculture for a waiver in order to allow a nonminor dependent who lives in a supervised independent living placement to be eligible to receive CalFresh regardless of income or resources, and would have required, upon approval of the waiver, that an eligible nonminor youth who is a custodial parent receive the maximum CalFresh benefit amount allowed for his or her household size.

AB 1039 (Quirk-Silva) As introduced February 16, 2017: CalFresh: nonminor dependents: supervised independent living placement.

As amended March 14, 2017: Racial and identity profiling: reporting: peace officer.
Held in the Assembly Rules Committee.

While originally referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was amended substantially on March 14, 2017, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

AB 1892 (Jones-Sawyer) CalFresh.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 381, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to issue guidance to counties participating in CalFresh Employment and Training (CFET) with instructions for providing CFET support services or client reimbursements for CFET participants and requires the guidance to include instructions for reimbursing a portion of the cost of Internet service or telephone services. This bill also expands the definition of "participant who faces multiple barriers to employment" for purposes of CFET by deleting the requirement that an individual meet two of three specified criteria (which are: having a barrier to employment, being homeless, or being an out-of-school youth) and instead requires that just one of those criteria be met. This bill also specifies that meeting the first criterion – being an individual with employment barriers – involves being a member of at least two of the groups listed in current law regarding employment barriers.

AB 1894 (Weber) Postsecondary education: student hunger.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 746, Statutes of 2018.

This bill allows the Department of Social Services to enter into a statewide memorandum of understanding with the Chancellor of the California State University (CSU) to allow any qualifying food facility located on a CSU campus to participate in the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP), even if the facility is located in a county that does not participate in RMP in order to prevent hunger among college students. This bill also changes the definition of “qualifying food facility” to clarify that a facility is administered by a postsecondary institution, and requires a qualifying food facility, if approved to participate in the RMP, to annually inform students about the RMP. This bill also subjects a qualifying food facility participating in the RMP to all of the requirements for participation in the program, and specifies that, for purposes of the bill, a restaurant includes but is not necessarily limited to an on-campus qualifying food facility, an eat-in establishment, a grocery store delicatessen, and a takeaway-only restaurant.

AB 2152 (Weber) CalFresh: able-bodied adults without dependents.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have established the “You Can’t Work If You’re Hungry Act of 2018”, which would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to, no later than July 1, 2019: establish a definition of food insecurity, in consultation with stakeholders, while taking into consideration the definition established by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); and develop a tool that would screen for food insecurity that would aid counties in identifying a person who should be further evaluated to determine if they are unfit for employment, thereby exempting them from the federal able-bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD) time limit specified in federal law. This bill would have also required DSS to issue guidance to county human services agencies that includes

a copy of the screening tool and instructions for verifying when a person is unfit for employment following a screening that determined that the person is food insecure or deprived of their basic needs.

AB 2297 (Arambula) CalWORKs and CalFresh: Hunger Impact Act of 2018.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File.

This bill would have established the “Hunger Impact Act of 2018”, which would have included “food preparation needs” in the definition of CalWORKs “recurring special needs” and would have increased the maximum monthly recurring special needs allowance for each family from the sum of \$10 multiplied by the number of eligible recipients in the family to the sum of \$15 multiplied by the number of eligible recipients in the family. This bill would have also required, when requested by the recipient that the allowance be used for expenses related to a special diet, the allowance be provided in the form of a supplemental food benefit upon verification of certain criteria related to special dietary need, elevated blood lead level, or access to potable water at his or her residence. This bill would have also required the special diet or food preparation allowance be delivered through the electronic benefits transfer (EBT) system and would have prohibited the special diet or food preparation needs allowance from being considered income for the purpose of determining eligibility or amount of aid for any state or local means-tested public benefits program. This bill would have also established the 100% state-funded “CalFresh Hunger Impact Program” (CalHIP), which would have required each county to provide an additional CalFresh benefit of \$28 per month to each CalFresh household, and would have prohibited CalHIP benefits from being considered as income for the purposes of determining eligibility or benefit amount for any state or local means-tested public benefit program.

AB 2313 (Mark Stone) Electronic benefits transfer system.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 712, Statutes of 2018.

This bill specifies that unauthorized use of benefits includes, but is not limited to, use that results from an unauthorized solicitation, request, or representation that results in a recipient surrendering information about his or her account or personal identification number (PIN). This bill also adds “unauthorized contact” to the list of activities taken by an outside party for which a recipient of certain public benefits is prohibited from incurring a loss of cash benefits, except in certain circumstances. This bill also requires, if a recipient knowingly provides his or her electronic benefits transfer (EBT) card number and PIN to an unauthorized third party that the recipient mistakenly believes to be the contracted EBT vendor, an approved retailer, or a governmental entity, any taken benefits be replaced in accordance with protocols established by the Department of Social Services (DSS), but not more than one time in a 36-month period. This bill also allows DSS to issue mass reimbursements to recipients for the loss of cash benefits if it is found that the benefits of multiple recipients were taken by an unauthorized withdrawal, removal, or use of benefits in which the recipients’ EBT card numbers or PINs were obtained via a data breach, and subjects mass reimbursements to approval of the Department of Finance with a notice given to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

AB 3033 (Maienschein) CalHEERS: application for CalFresh.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the California Healthcare Eligibility, Enrollment, and Retention System (CalHEERS) to transfer a person’s health care benefits application, if the individual opts to apply for CalFresh benefits, to a person’s county of residence within one working day if the individual is determined to be potentially eligible for CalFresh benefits. This bill would have also required the county to treat the application as an application for CalFresh benefits.

SB 278 (Wiener) CalFresh: overissuance.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 388, Statutes of 2017.

This bill defines “mass overissuance” as an overissuance that is caused by the same action or inaction and impacts the greater of either 8% of a county’s CalFresh caseload or 1,000 or more CalFresh households within the county. This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS), by January 1, 2019, to analyze and determine whether DSS has enough information to set a minimum statewide cost-effective threshold for collecting CalFresh overissuances caused by an administrative error from former CalFresh recipients that is higher than the threshold that exists in current law. This bill requires DSS, if it determines that there is not adequate information to set a minimum cost-effective threshold for collecting CalFresh overissuances, to submit a report to the Legislature explaining the results of the determination, including the data, methodology, and criteria used to reach the analysis conclusions. This bill also requires a county human services agency to notify DSS when a mass overissuance is identified and whether the overissuance was caused by negligence or fraud on the part of the county human services agency, or a major systemic error by the state or county human services agency. This bill requires DSS to report mass overissuances to the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service as required by federal law.

SB 282 (Wiener) CalFresh and CalWORKs.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 355, Statutes of 2017.

This bill creates the “Reducing Hunger Among Vulnerable Californians Act of 2017” and increases access to employment services for noncustodial parents of children receiving CalWORKs benefits. The bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to issue an all-county letter that includes guidance on which counties or regions may participate in the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) and how a county may choose to participate in RMP. This bill defines “in-store purchase” as any purchase that is not delivered to the purchaser and requires DSS to design the electronic benefit transfer (EBT) system to allow all eligible CalFresh recipients to use their benefits in all RMP approved restaurants. This bill also prohibits a restaurant from operating as a vendor in the RMP program unless the restaurant permits customers to make in-store purchases and complies with certain federal, state, and local health and safety laws and regulations. This bill requires DSS to seek a federal waiver to allow 50% federal reimbursement for eligible CalFresh Employment & Training (CFET) activities to be used to provide wage subsidies to able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in certain counties, and requires participating counties to demonstrate in their CFET plan how the county is effectively using CalFresh funds for subsidized employment activities.

SB 360 (Skinner) Public social services: prosecution for overpayment or overissuance of benefits.

Chapered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 390, Statutes of 2017.

This bill stipulates that a person shall not be subject to criminal prosecution for an overpayment of CalWORKs benefits or overissuance of CalFresh benefits for any month in which the county human services agency is in receipt of any Income and Eligibility Verification (IEVS) data match information indicating a potential for overpayment or overissuance and has not provided a timely and adequate notice of action for the collection of the overpayment or overissuance. This bill specifies that a county human services agency shall be deemed to be in receipt of IEVS data match information indicating any potential for an overpayment or overissuance following 45 days, or 45 days plus any authorized delay from the date of the county human services agency's possession of that information.

SB 675 (Skinner) Electronic benefits transfer system.

Held on the Assembly Inactive File.

This bill would have required the electronic benefit transfer (EBT) system, to the extent feasible, to limit the purchase of food through online transactions to authorized retailers who meet certain criteria, and would have prohibited the use of CalFresh benefits to pay a delivery fee for food purchased using CalFresh benefits through the EBT system. This bill would have also defined "retailer" as a grocery establishment, a grocery store, a commissary, a community-supported agriculture program, as defined by current law, or a restaurant that meets certain criteria and agrees to serve CalFresh recipients who are elderly, homeless, or have disabilities, through the CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program. The bill would have also required that, if a fee is charged for the delivery of food, the recipient must be informed of the fee and agree to pay the fee with funds other than CalFresh benefits, and would have required a fee to be reimbursed immediately if an in-person confirmation of delivery is not secured.

SB 900 (Wiener and Arambula) Electronic benefits transfer system: CalFresh supplemental benefits.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have established the "California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot Project", which would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS), in consultation with the Department of Food and Agriculture (DFA), and various stakeholders, to include within the electronic benefit transfer (EBT) system a supplemental benefits mechanism to allow retailers to deliver and redeem supplemental benefits that would enable CalFresh recipients to purchase California-grown fresh fruits and vegetables. This bill would have also created the "California Fruit and Vegetable Grant Fund" within the State Treasury, which would have consisted of moneys from state, federal, and other public and private sources to provide grants to pilot projects implementing the EBT pilot project in order to develop and refine a model for increasing purchase and consumption of California-grown fruits and vegetables. This bill would have also required DSS, in consultation with DFA, to develop and adopt guidelines for awarding grants from the Fund to pilot projects. This bill would have required DSS to evaluate the pilot projects and make recommendations to further refine and expand the supplemental benefits mechanism, including recommendations for further modifications that would make the mechanism easier for CalFresh recipients to use. This bill would have also required DSS to, on or before January 1, 2021, submit a report to the Legislature that

includes the results of evaluations conducted by DSS as to the efficacy of supplemental benefits accrual, delivery, and redemption from various entities. This bill would have required DSS to seek any necessary federal approvals to establish the pilot project, and would have repealed the provisions of the bill on January 1, 2024.

SB 926 (Skinner) CalWORKs and CalFresh: work requirements.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have established additional reasons for relief from CalWORKs sanctions and for good cause for non-compliance with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) work requirements. Specifically, this bill would have expanded the list of reasons for which CalWORKs sanctions shall not be applied for failure or refusal to comply with program requirements to include situations in which: the recipient provides documentation to the county human services agency that the anticipated hours would be so unpredictable, or the scheduled hours exhibit a pattern of unpredictability, so as to not allow for anticipated compliance with program requirements related to the job; the recipient self-certifies that the employment or offer of employment fails to comply with the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014; the recipient self-certifies experience of sexual harassment or other abusive conduct at the workplace or that the recipient's rights under the New Parent Leave Act, the Wage Theft Prevention Act of 2011, or the Domestic Worker Bill of Rights were violated. This bill would have required a county, to the extent permitted by federal law or other instruction, to determine that good cause exists for purposes of the SNAP work requirement if an applicant or recipient has voluntarily quit a job or reduced work hours based on a least one of the reasons delineated in current law or the provisions of this bill regarding CalWORKs sanction relief or if the scheduled work hours were so unpredictable that they did not allow the applicant or recipient to anticipate the amount of monthly income from the job. This bill would have prohibited relief from a program sanction received pursuant to current law and the provisions of this bill from lasting longer than three months from the first date of the failure or refusal to comply with program requirements. Additionally, this bill would have required a county human services agency to provide applicants and recipients with information on workplace rights, including information about how to file complaints when the applicant or recipient reports refusing any offer of employment, reducing hours, voluntarily quitting any employment, or being discharged from employment.

CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs)

AB 160 (Mark Stone) CalWORKs: eligibility.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have increased the time limit on aid for CalWORKs recipient parents and caretaker relatives from a cumulative total of 48 months to 60 months, thereby aligning with federal time limits for the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Additionally, this bill would have increased the amount of income disregarded when calculating CalWORKs eligibility and aid amounts from \$225 plus 50% of the remaining earned income to \$450 plus 70% of the remaining earned income.

AB 167 (Lackey) CalWORKs: CalFresh: semiannual reporting.
Held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee (not heard).

This bill would have deleted the requirement that a county welfare agency administered certificate of eligibility contain information for children receiving aid, and would have required a county welfare agency to use a blank semiannual report form or prepopulated renewal form in order to streamline the recertification process for the CalWORKs and CalFresh programs.

AB 227 (Mayes, Bates, and Gipson) CalWORKs: education incentives.
Held in the Senate Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have created the “CalWORKs Educational Opportunity and Attainment Program” to offer education grants and/or stipends to eligible CalWORKs participants, provided certain conditions were met (including that the relevant educational program was included in the participant’s welfare-to-work plan). Specifically, this bill would have enabled a CalWORKs recipient to apply to receive an education grant of \$100 per month (as an ongoing adjustment to a participant’s monthly CalWORKs cash grant) for completion of a high school diploma or its equivalent, and a CalWORKs recipient to apply to receive education stipends totaling no more than \$2,400 per year for enrollment in an education or training program leading to a career technical education program certificate, associate’s degree, or bachelor’s degree. This bill would have also appropriated \$20 million to California Community Colleges for the CalWORKs Recipients Education Program and would have required \$10 million of this appropriation to be used solely to support CalWORKs recipients in completing their high school education or equivalent. The provisions of this bill would have been made contingent upon an appropriation in the annual Budget Act.

AB 236 (Maienschein and Santiago) CalWORKs: housing assistance.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 545, Statutes of 2017.

This bill adopts changes to CalWORKs housing assistance for temporary shelter to make the assistance available to homeless families that would be eligible for CalWORKs aid except for the fact that the only child or children in the family are in an out-of-home placement per an order of the dependency court and if the family is receiving reunification services and the county has determined that homeless assistance is necessary for reunification. This bill clarifies that a needy parent or parents are eligible for CalWORKs temporary shelter assistance in certain instances where the needy child or children are absent from the assistance unit for a period of up to 180 consecutive days when all other criteria contained in current law are met. This bill requires the Department of Social Services to work with county human services agencies, the County Welfare Directors Association of California, and advocates for CalWORKs recipients to collect information and report to the Legislature each year on the actual costs of a nightly shelter and best practices for transitioning families from temporary to permanent shelter.

AB 480 (Gonzalez Fletcher, C. Garcia, and Gipson) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: necessary supportive services.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 690, Statutes of 2017.

This bill includes, as of April 1, 2018, a \$30 per month benefit to assist with diaper costs for each child under three years of age as a necessary supportive service pursuant to a CalWORKs participant's welfare-to-work plan.

AB 557 (Rubio) CalWORKs: victims of abuse.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 691, Statutes of 2017.

This bill authorizes, as of July 1, 2018, CalWORKs applicants and recipients who have experienced domestic violence to be eligible for CalWORKs homeless assistance and good-cause exemptions from school participation and immunization requirements under specified circumstances. This bill requires the homeless assistance payments to be granted immediately after application and to be made available in increments of 16 days of temporary shelter assistance for a lifetime limit of up to two consecutive periods of no more than 16 calendar days each; these payments must be made in addition to other CalWORKs homeless assistance payments for which an individual may be eligible in the future. This bill requires all CalWORKs applicants and recipients to be informed verbally and in writing of the availability of services designed to assist individuals to identify, escape, or stop future domestic abuse as well as to overcome the effects of domestic abuse. This bill also mandates that the Department of Social Services, as of July 1, 2018, update the Legislature during the annual budget process on county-level data regarding identification of CalWORKs applicants and recipients who are potential victims of domestic abuse and the services available and provided to these individuals and their families.

AB 607 (Gloria) Public social services: disaster assistance services.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 501, Statutes of 2017.

This bill establishes the “Community Resiliency and Disaster Preparedness Act of 2017” to provide for expanded and improved disaster readiness and response in the CalWORKs and CalFresh programs through adopting a number of changes, including, among other things: prohibiting in certain circumstances residence from being deemed lost in the state if a recipient of public services is prevented from returning by displacement due to disaster declared by the Governor or President of the United States; requiring good cause for receipt of the CalWORKs temporary shelter special needs benefit to include that a family is homeless as a direct and primary result of a state- or federally-declared natural disaster; requiring the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the county human services agency to make a request to operate a federal Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for the regions affected by a major disaster in the event the President of the United States issues a major disaster declaration for individual assistance for those regions and requiring that request to include a waiver request to provide automatic mass replacement benefits to eligible households and to allow households to purchase hot meals with their benefits; and making Legislative findings and declarations related to the additional funding that DSS will require to implement provisions of this bill, and requiring that an amount necessary to cover the disaster assistance services called for by this bill be continuously appropriated to DSS from the General Fund, not to exceed \$300,000 per disaster declaration.

AB 818 (Burke) CalWORKs: welfare to work.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 141, Statutes of 2017.

This bill clarifies that, for purposes of a CalWORKs recipient seeking an extension to the 24-month time clock on the basis of achieving satisfactory progress in an educational or treatment program that would meaningfully increase the likelihood of his or her employment, a high school education or its equivalent is presumed to meaningfully increase the likelihood of employment. This bill also authorizes a CalWORKs recipient who has obtained his or her high school diploma or its equivalent while participating in welfare-to-work activities under the 24-month clock to request an extension to that clock if he or she could meaningfully increase the likelihood of his or her employment by being granted additional time for the completion of a subsequent educational program or other permitted activity.

AB 910 (Ridley-Thomas) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work activities: hours.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 318, Statutes of 2017.

This bill clarifies, as of July 1, 2018, CalWORKs welfare-to-work requirements for certain assistance units, as follows: for a two-parent assistance unit, the 30-hour-per-week welfare-to-work requirement applies if one parent is living with disabilities; and for an assistance unit consisting solely of a pregnant woman, the welfare-to-work requirement is 20 hours per week during the 24-month welfare-to-work time clock and 30 hours per week after the 24-month clock.

AB 992 (Arambula) CalWORKs: Baby Wellness and Family Support Home Visiting Program.

Held in the Senate Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have established the “CalWORKs Baby Wellness and Family Support Home Visiting Program” in the Department of Social Services (DSS) to offer a voluntary home visiting program to CalWORKs assistance units with a pregnant recipient or a child up to 24 months of age intended to provide services to support health outcomes for pregnant women and infants born into poverty aimed at improving their likelihood of exiting poverty. This bill would have required the state to allocate funds to counties to administer the home visiting program, and would have placed stipulations on the home visiting program, including, among other things, that home visiting services provided only be those intended to provide high-quality, evidence-based, research-based, culturally competent services that meet the needs of at-risk assistance units in underserved communities and only be provided by a nurse, nurse practitioner, social worker, or another person able to provide culturally appropriate services who is trained and certified according to the criteria of the applicable evidence-based home visiting program. This bill would have prohibited home visiting services and visits from being mandatory, random, unannounced, or conducted by unqualified personnel, and would have placed a number of requirements on DSS and counties to ensure, among other things, that eligible families are informed of the program and its voluntary nature and that outcomes data are collected and reported annually to the Legislature.

AB 1604 (Nazarian) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: education.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 303, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires a CalWORKs recipient who has not yet received his or her high school diploma or its equivalent to be offered a welfare-to-work plan to participate in a high school education program or equivalency program. This bill does not require a recipient to participate in a high school

equivalency program; that recipient may choose to engage in a job club, job search, or other permitted activities if he or she declines in writing to participate in a high school education or equivalency program.

AB 1921 (Maienschein and Santiago) CalWORKs: housing assistance.
Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have expanded, as of July 1, 2019, the types of housing for which a CalWORKs housing assistance payment may be made by deleting the requirement that a provider of housing who is in the business of renting properties must have a history of renting properties in order for a payment to be made. It would have also included among approved housing providers an individual with whom a family requesting assistance has executed a valid lease, sublease, or shared housing agreement.

AB 1992 (Chu) CalWORKs eligibility: immunizations.
Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have, as of July 1, 2019, made inoperative provisions of current law related to required immunizations for young children in CalWORKs assistances units and would have instead recast immunization requirements for these children by adopting a number of changes. These changes would have included, among others: directing a county to first review the California Immunization Registry (CAIR) and attempt to verify that a child has received all age-appropriate immunizations and then requiring an applicant or recipient to supply the proper immunization documentation if the county human services agency is unable to secure documentation via CAIR; deeming applicants for aid to be in compliance with the immunization requirements on the first day of the month after required documentation has been obtained or received by the county human services agency, or after the county has determined good cause exists for not providing the documentation; stipulating that good cause for not supplying young-child immunization documentation includes, but is not limited to, homelessness, domestic violence, lack of transportation or money for transportation, lack of immunization providers in the county, or participation in family stabilization or an early home visiting program administered by the county human services agency; and requiring a county human services agency to provide an applicant or recipient a notice regarding the young-child immunization requirement and certain other information regarding immunizations, including childhood immunization schedules, a description of how to obtain immunizations through various no- or low-cost providers, and a statement that Medi-Cal covers nonmedical transportation services for children who receive Medi-Cal benefits to receive immunizations.

AB 2030 (Limón) CalWORKs: accommodations.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 485, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires any single state automated welfare system implemented pursuant to current law to include a notification to inform a CalWORKs caseworker of the following information: that the applicant or recipient has indicated the need for an accommodation due to disability consistent with federal law and regulations; and that the applicant or recipient has disclosed a disability or experience of domestic violence that may affect his or her eligibility for certain exemptions from, and exceptions to, CalWORKs program requirements. This bill also requires the notification mandated by this bill to be immediately visible to the caseworker upon opening the applicant's or

recipient's file in the system, and requires the Department of Social Services to include questions that enable an applicant to disclose a disability, the need for accommodation due to disability, and any experience of domestic violence in any amendment or revision adopted on or after January 1, 2019, to the standard form for initial applications and to the semiannual report form.

AB 2111 (Quirk) CalWORKs: sponsored noncitizen: indigence exception.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have required a county, to the extent permitted by federal law and other instructions, to renew the 12-month indigent immigrant exception for additional 12-month periods for a sponsored CalWORKs applicant or recipient who is deemed to meet the indigence exception, and would have required DSS to implement these provisions between April 1, 2019, and July 1, 2019.

AB 2269 (Lackey) CalWORKs: eligibility.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have increased from less than 19 years to less than 20 years of age the maximum age until which a child in a CalWORKs assistance unit who is attending high school or the equivalent level of training on a full-time basis may receive CalWORKs assistance.

AB 2297 (Arambula) CalWORKs and CalFresh: Hunger Impact Act of 2018.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have established the “Hunger Impact Act of 2018”, which would have included “food preparation needs” in the definition of CalWORKs “recurring special needs” and would have increased the maximum monthly recurring special needs allowance for each family from the sum of \$10 multiplied by the number of eligible recipients in the family to the sum of \$15 multiplied by the number of eligible recipients in the family. This bill would have also required, when requested by the recipient that the allowance be used for expenses related to a special diet, the allowance be provided in the form of a supplemental food benefit upon verification of certain criteria related to special dietary need, elevated blood lead level, or access to potable water at his or her residence. This bill would have also required the special diet or food preparation allowance be delivered through the electronic benefits transfer system and would have prohibited the special diet or food preparation needs allowance from being considered income for the purpose of determining eligibility or amount of aid for any state or local means-tested public benefits program. This bill would have also established the 100% state-funded “CalFresh Hunger Impact Program” (CalHIP), which would have required each county to provide an additional CalFresh benefit of \$28 per month to each CalFresh household, and would have prohibited CalHIP benefits from being considered as income for the purposes of determining eligibility or benefit amount for any state or local means-tested public benefit program.

AB 2313 (Mark Stone) Electronic benefits transfer system.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 712, Statutes of 2018.

This bill specifies that unauthorized use of benefits includes, but is not limited to, use that results from an unauthorized solicitation, request, or representation that results in a recipient surrendering information about his or her account or personal identification number (PIN). This bill also adds “unauthorized contact” to the list of activities taken by an outside party for which a recipient of

certain public benefits is prohibited from incurring a loss of cash benefits, except in certain circumstances. This bill also requires, if a recipient knowingly provides his or her electronic benefits transfer (EBT) card number and PIN to an unauthorized third party that the recipient mistakenly believes to be the contracted EBT vendor, an approved retailer, or a governmental entity, any taken benefits be replaced in accordance with protocols established by the Department of Social Services (DSS), but not more than one time in a 36-month period. This bill also allows DSS to issue mass reimbursements to recipients for the loss of cash benefits if it is found that the benefits of multiple recipients were taken by an unauthorized withdrawal, removal, or use of benefits in which the recipients' EBT card numbers or PINs were obtained via a data breach, and subjects mass reimbursements to approval of the Department of Finance with a notice given to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

AB 2326 (Rubio) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: exemption.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have recast and expanded CalWORKs welfare-to-work young child exemptions by deleting language establishing three different current-law CalWORKs welfare-to-work exemptions for parents and certain relative caregivers of young children and instead establishing as exempt from CalWORKs welfare-to-work requirements a parent or other relative who has primary responsibility for personally providing care to a child 24 months of age or younger and a pregnant woman who is the sole member of her assistance unit. This bill would have also further facilitated volunteer participation of exempt individuals in welfare-to-work activities by: requiring a county human services agency to, upon determining that an individual is exempt from welfare-to-work activities, provide that individual with a notice containing information about the exemption and the individual's right to volunteer to participate in welfare-to-work activities of the individual's choice and with a form for the written welfare-to-work plan and instructions regarding how to complete the form; requiring the county human services agency to, upon request, assist any individual choosing to volunteer in selecting and participating in that individual's chosen activities, accessing the supportive services necessary to participate, and completing the plan; and requiring the county human services agency to approve the welfare-to-work plan within 30 days of the individual indicating that he or she wishes to volunteer for welfare-to-work activities.

AB 2637 (O'Donnell) CalWORKs: aid amounts: education support payments.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have deemed, as of May 1, 2019, a person under the age of 19 who is not eligible for Cal-Learn and who earns a high school diploma or its equivalent while receiving CalWORKs aid as eligible to receive a one-time education support payment of \$500.

SB 360 (Skinner) Public social services: prosecution for overpayment or overissuance of benefits.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 390, Statutes of 2017.

This bill stipulates that a person shall not be subject to criminal prosecution for an overpayment of CalWORKs benefits or overissuance of CalFresh benefits for any month in which the county human services agency is in receipt of any Income and Eligibility Verification (IEVS) data match information indicating a potential for overpayment or overissuance and has not provided a timely and adequate notice of action for the collection of the overpayment or overissuance. This bill

specifies that a county human services agency shall be deemed to be in receipt of IEVS data match information indicating any potential for an overpayment or overissuance following 45 days, or 45 days plus any authorized delay from the date of the county human services agency's possession of that information.

SB 380 (Bradford) CalWORKs: child support.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 729, Statutes of 2017.

This bill, with regards to a half-sibling or step-sibling who lives with a CalWORKs-eligible child and who the parent or caretaker relative has elected not be included in the number of needy persons used to calculate the CalWORKs maximum aid payment, allows a CalWORKs assistance unit to receive the full child support payments for that step-sibling or half-sibling in the assistance unit, and prohibits those child support payments from impacting CalWORKs eligibility or benefit level determination. This bill requires each county welfare department to notify CalWORKs applicants, and CalWORKs recipients at the time of redetermination or sooner, in writing of the provisions of this bill. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services and the Department of Child Support Services to each seek all appropriate federal waivers for the implementation of the provisions of this bill as necessary and stipulates that, if federal waivers are deemed necessary, the provisions of this bill shall be implemented only if federal waivers are granted.

SB 570 (Newman) CalWORKs.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 463, Statutes of 2017.

This bill exempts United States Department of Veterans Affairs education, training, vocation, or rehabilitation and related benefits received by a veteran or spouse or dependent of a veteran who died in the line of duty or has a service-connected disability from being considered as income for purposes of determining eligibility for or amount of CalWORKs benefits.

SB 726 (Wiener) CalWORKs: benefits overpayment.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 930, Statutes of 2018.

This bill raises, effective July 1, 2019, the threshold amount for collection of CalWORKs outstanding overpayments owed by individuals no longer receiving aid from \$35 to \$250, or a higher amount as determined by the Department of Social Services (DSS). This bill also establishes, effective July 1, 2019, circumstances under which overpayment recovery and civil or criminal action are prohibited and under which overpayments are expunged. Specifically, this bill requires a county to expunge an overpayment if it determines that the overpayment has been caused by, as defined by DSS, a major systemic error or negligence. Additionally, this bill requires a county, except in cases involving investigation of suspected fraud, to deem an overpayment uncollectible and expunge that overpayment in instances where the individual responsible for the overpayment has not received CalWORKs benefits for at least 36 consecutive months. This bill also prohibits a civil or criminal action from being brought against an individual based on unlawful application for or receipt of public social services in the following circumstances: if an individual's case record used in the civil or criminal case of that person for the purpose of determining the overpayment has not been made available to him or her; if an individual's consumer credit report used in the civil or criminal case of that person for the purpose of determining the overpayment has not been made available to him or her; or if an individual's consumer credit report used in the civil or criminal case of that person for the purpose of determining the overpayment has been destroyed after the expiration of the three-year retention period specified in current law.

SB 926 (Skinner) CalWORKs and CalFresh: work requirements.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have established additional reasons for relief from CalWORKs sanctions and for good cause for non-compliance with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) work requirements. Specifically, this bill would have expanded the list of reasons for which CalWORKs sanctions shall not be applied for failure or refusal to comply with program requirements to include situations in which: the recipient provides documentation to the county human services agency that the anticipated hours would be so unpredictable, or the scheduled hours exhibit a pattern of unpredictability, so as to not allow for anticipated compliance with program requirements related to the job; the recipient self-certifies that the employment or offer of employment fails to comply with the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014; the recipient self-certifies experience of sexual harassment or other abusive conduct at the workplace or that the recipient's rights under the New Parent Leave Act, the Wage Theft Prevention Act of 2011, or the Domestic Worker Bill of Rights were violated. This bill would have required a county, to the extent permitted by federal law or other instruction, to determine that good cause exists for purposes of the SNAP work requirement if an applicant or recipient has voluntarily quit a job or reduced work hours based on a least one of the reasons delineated in current law or the provisions of this bill regarding CalWORKs sanction relief or if the scheduled work hours were so unpredictable that they did not allow the applicant or recipient to anticipate the amount of monthly income from the job. This bill would have prohibited relief from a program sanction received pursuant to current law and the provisions of this bill from lasting longer than three months from the first date of the failure or refusal to comply with program requirements. Additionally, this bill would have required a county human services agency to provide applicants and recipients with information on workplace rights, including information about how to file complaints when the applicant or recipient reports refusing any offer of employment, reducing hours, voluntarily quitting any employment, or being discharged from employment.

SB 982 (Mitchell) CalWORKs: maximum grant amount.

Held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee (not heard).

This bill would have increased the CalWORKs maximum aid payment (MAP) schedule incrementally over three years, beginning on January 1 of 2019, 2020, and 2021, and would have prohibited counties from being required to contribute a share of cost to cover such MAP increases. This bill would have also reinstated the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) per the California Necessities Index (CNI), defined in current law, commencing with fiscal year 2019-20 and effective as of January 1, 2020, followed by an adjustment on January 1 of each fiscal year thereafter. The provisions of this bill would have been deemed operative only to the extent that funding was provided by express reference in the annual Budget Act.

SB 1446 (Glazer) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 740, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires, as of July 1, 2019, a CalWORKs recipient to be deemed to be in compliance with welfare-to-work activity requirements if an adult recipient reports and the county verifies, or the county otherwise discovers, that the recipient is meeting the federally required minimum average number of hours per week of welfare-to-work participation, unless the recipient provides notice to the county that the recipient wishes to have sanctions imposed. This bill also requires, as of July 1, 2019, the provision of necessary supportive services to recipients to whom the provisions of this bill apply.

CHILD CARE

AB 26 (Caballero) Child care and development: child care resource and referral programs: assistance to license-exempt child care providers.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have required the California Department of Education (CDE) to develop and administer a pilot program to provide, through county child care resource and referral programs, outreach, training, and technical assistance to license-exempt child care providers. If a county opted to participate in the pilot program, this bill would have required a county resource and referral program to, in collaboration with other local entities supporting early childhood care and education, develop a community-based program model that met certain requirements, including, among other things, prioritizing providing services to license-exempt child care providers serving children between the ages of zero and five. This bill would have authorized a resource and referral program to, to the extent possible, seek grants from or partnerships with private foundations or other philanthropic entities in order to expand the training opportunities for license-exempt child care providers. This bill would have also required each county that opted to participate in the pilot program to provide reports to CDE and the Legislature on certain demographic and descriptive data related to the pilots and the provisions of this bill would have sunset on July 1, 2022.

AB 60 (Santiago) Subsidized child care and development services: stages of child care: CalWORKs.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill, aimed at ensuring continuity of services for families receiving CalWORKs child care services, would have prohibited the first and second stages of CalWORKs child care services from being discontinued until confirmation is received from the administrator of the subsequent stage of child care that the family has been enrolled in that stage, or that the family is ineligible for services in that stage of child care. This bill would have also required a county welfare department to provide limited, read-only, online access through individual county-level Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS) databases to local contractors providing Stage One and Stage Two CalWORKs child care services. This bill would have required a county welfare department to provide Stage Two contractors a monthly report of all families for which: the parent's cash aid had been discontinued; the parent had remained off of aid for at least one month; and the parent had children in the home who were eligible for child care services.

AB 231 (Chávez) Subsidized child care: eligibility.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have, as of state fiscal year 2018-19, and annually thereafter, defined a family as income eligible for subsidized child care if its adjusted monthly income was at or below 75% of the state median income (SMI), adjusted for family size and indexed annually. This bill would have also established a phase-out scale for families with incomes up to 85% of the state SMI, whereby families with higher incomes would receive a lower percentage of state-funded child care for which the family was eligible. This bill would have required the income of each family receiving state-funded child care to be verified annually.

AB 258 (Arambula) Child care and development services: individualized county child care subsidy plan: County of Fresno.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 697, Statutes of 2017.

This bill authorizes Fresno County to establish a subsidized child care pilot program that enables the county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2023. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for the individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that the plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit the county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill allows the plan to include Stage One child care services and all voucher-based child care programs. This bill also requires the county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Education (CDE) each year. This bill requires CDE to review the report, along with any applicable programmatic and fiscal compliance records, and determine whether to allow the county to continue with the plan without change, or whether to require modifications to be made to the plan.

AB 273 (Aguiar-Curry, et al.) Child care services: eligibility.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 689, Statutes of 2017.

This bill clarifies that engagement in English language and high school or high school equivalency educational programs meets criteria for establishing eligibility for subsidized child care programs.

AB 300 (Caballero) Child care and development services: individualized county child care subsidy plans: Counties of Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 699, Statutes of 2017.

This bill authorizes Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties to establish subsidized child care pilot programs that enable each county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2023. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for each individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that each plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit a county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill allows each plan to include Stage One child care services and all voucher-based child care programs. This bill also requires each county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Education (CDE) each year. This bill requires CDE to review the report, along with any applicable programmatic and fiscal compliance records, and determine whether to allow the county to continue with the plan without change, or whether to require modifications to be made to the plan. The bill also makes changes to Santa Clara County's existing subsidized child care pilot program by, among other things, broadening language regarding funding sources that are eligible to be included in Santa Clara County's plan and specifying that the local policy developed by Santa Clara County ensures that families qualifying for CalWORKs Stages Two and Three child care are provided the same or higher level of benefit as families that qualify for other subsidized child care programs.

AB 377 (Frazier and Gonzalez Fletcher) Child care subsidy plans: Counties of San Diego and Solano.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 701, Statutes of 2017.

This bill authorizes San Diego and Solano Counties to establish subsidized child care pilot programs that enable each county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2023. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for each individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that each plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit a county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill allows each plan to include Stage One child care services and all voucher-based child care programs. This bill also requires each county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Education (CDE) each year. This bill requires CDE to review the report, along with any applicable programmatic and fiscal compliance records, and determine whether to allow the county to continue with the plan without change, or whether to require modifications to be made to the plan.

AB 435 (Thurmond) Child care subsidy plans: Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, and Sonoma.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 703, Statutes of 2017.

This bill authorizes Contra Costa, Marin, and Sonoma Counties to establish subsidized child care pilot programs that enable each county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2023. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for each individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that each plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit a county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill allows each plan to include Stage One child care services and all voucher-based child care programs. This bill also requires each county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Education (CDE) each year. This bill requires CDE to review the report, along with any applicable programmatic and fiscal compliance records, and determine whether to allow the county to continue with the plan without change, or whether to require modifications to be made to the plan. The bill also makes changes to Alameda County's existing subsidized child care pilot program by, among other things, broadening language regarding funding sources that are eligible to be included in Santa Clara County's plan and specifying that the local policy developed by Alameda County ensures that families qualifying for CalWORKs Stages Two and Three child care are provided the same or higher level of benefit as families that qualify for other subsidized child care programs.

AB 540 (Mullin) Child care: alternative payment programs: reimbursement rates.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have changed the maximum reimbursement a child care alternative payment program could receive for administrative and support services from 17.5% to 17.6% of the total contract amount.

AB 603 (Quirk-Silva) Child care: alternative payment programs: child care providers: electronic payments: notice of service changes.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 706, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires an alternative payment program (APP), by July 1, 2019, to establish a program of electronic banking that includes, but is not limited to, direct deposit for payments made to licensed or license-exempt child care providers, to be used if a provider so chooses, and stipulates that this requirement shall not preclude an APP that has such a program prior to that date from continuing to require child care centers and family day care homes to accept direct deposit or another form of electronic payment. This bill also requires an APP to include a description of the payment to the child care provider by child served and month of service covered by the payment. This bill requires an APP, beginning July 1, 2019, to provide notice to a child care provider of a change in reimbursement amounts for child care and other specified factors either electronically, if requested by the provider, or through the United States Postal Service at least 14 calendar days before the effective date of the intended action and further, requires that this notification not be deemed a violation of a parent's confidentiality.

AB 676 (Limón) Child care and development: occupational health and safety training.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation (Commission) to establish and maintain an Early Educators' Occupational Safety and Health Training Program to develop and deliver specified required training about occupational safety and health for licensed child day care facility providers throughout the state, and would have created the "Early Educator's Safety and Health Education Fund" in the State Treasury and authorized the Commission to spend funds, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to establish and maintain the training program. This bill would have also required the Department of Social Services to provide the Commission with lists of the contact information of licensed family day care home providers who are required to attend the training, to be used solely for purposes of carrying out the training program and would have prohibited the Commission from selling the lists to or sharing the lists with any third party other than an entity with which it contracted or subcontracted to carry out the training program. This bill would have provided a family day care home provider the ability to opt out of having his or her mailing address and home telephone number disclosed on the list.

AB 752 (Rubio) Child care: state preschool programs: expulsion.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 708, Statutes of 2017.

This bill prohibits a California State Preschool Program contracting agency from expelling or unenrolling a child because of a child's behavior except in instances when the contracting agency has pursued and documented reasonable steps to maintain the child's safe participation in the program and determined, in consultation with certain entities including the child's parents or legal guardians, that the child's continued enrollment would present a serious safety threat to the child or other enrolled children, at which point the contracting agency must refer the parents or legal guardians to other resources or placements and then may unenroll the child. This bill requires a State Preschool contracting agency, if a child exhibits continuing and serious challenging behaviors, to pursue and document reasonable steps, including consulting with the child's parents or legal guardians and teacher, to maintain the child's safe participation in the program and to either seek, with written permission from the parent, consultation on a child's existing individualized family

service plan (IFSP) or individualized education program (IEP), or to consider completing a universal screening of a child who doesn't have an IFSP or IEP prior to referring the child's parents or legal guardians to the local agency responsible for implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services to consider, in determining whether to issue a citation or impose a civil penalty related to licensure, to a child day care facility that contracts with the California Department of Education, whether that day care facility is in the process of complying with the provisions of this bill.

AB 1106 (Weber) Child care and development services: alternative payment programs.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 716, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires an alternative payment program (APP) to have at least 36 months to expend funds allocated to that program in any fiscal year and requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop a contracting process enabling this expenditure timeframe; this spending timeframe does not apply to CalWORKs Stages Two and Three child care contracts.

AB 1883 (Weber) Child care and development services.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have, for purposes of determining eligibility for subsidized child development services, excluded the basic allowance for housing (BAH) from being considered as income for a person on state or federal active duty, active duty for special work, or Active Guard and Reserve duty in the military if the allowance is equal to the lowest rate of the allowance for the military housing area where the person lives. This bill would have also specified that exclusion of the BAH from income for purposes of determining subsidized child care eligibility does not affect priority for federal and state subsidized child development. This bill would have deleted the requirement that the Department of Social Services (DSS) contract with local contracting agencies for alternative payment programs (APPs) and instead would have required DSS to contract with APPs for the provision of services. This bill would have also deleted the ability for each licensed child care provider to alter rate levels for subsidized children once per year, and would have deleted the requirement that each licensed child care provider give APPs and resource and referral agencies updated information to reflect changes in rates. This bill would have also deleted the requirement that an APP verify provider rates at least once per year through a methodology specified in current law. This bill would have deleted the requirement that DSS develop regulations for addressing discrepancies in the provider rate levels identified through the rate verification process, which would have been deleted by the bill's provisions.

AB 2001 (Reyes) Family child care home education networks.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have clarified, updated, and expanded requirements found in current statute for family child care home education network (FCCHEN) programs, contractors, and providers by, among a number of other things: stipulating that the tools used to carry out the assessment of family child care home provider quality and appropriateness, required by current law, must be appropriate to family child care home settings; adding the requirement that a FCCHEN program must include a developmental portfolio for each child that includes a child's work product and observations of the child, among other items; requiring FCCHEN contractors to, among other things, conduct family surveys, ensure that parents are offered parent conferences, offer training and technical support to

providers, and conduct at least six annual site visits to each affiliated provider; and requiring FCCHEEN providers to, among other things, select and utilize appropriate curricula, provide parenting education, and obtain at least 12 hours of professional training each year.

AB 2292 (Aguiar-Curry) Child care: reimbursement rates: startup costs: grants.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have adopted a number of changes designed to increase capacity to serve young children in family child care homes, and across a variety of settings within the state subsidized child care system. These changes would have included, among others: establishing within the California Department of Education the “Family Child Care Recruitment and Training Program of 2018” to recruit and train licensed family child care providers; revising reimbursement rate adjustment factors for subsidized child care; and establishing the Early Education Expansion Program and the Early Education Expansion Program for Local Education Agencies in order to increase access to inclusive early care and education programs and to increase early learning infrastructure capacity in high-need communities.

AB 2370 (Holden and Gonzalez Fletcher) Lead exposure: child day care facilities: family day care homes.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 676, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires a licensed child day care facility, upon enrolling or reenrolling any child, to provide the parent or guardian with written information, to be developed by the Department of Social Services and in consultation with the Department of Public Health, about the risks and effects of lead exposure, blood lead testing recommendations and requirements, and options for obtaining blood lead testing. This bill also includes, for licenses issued on or after July 1, 2020, instruction in the prevention of lead exposure among the components of the required health and safety training for certain individuals at a child day care facility. This bill also includes training in lead poisoning among the existing topics listed in current law on which the Emergency Medical Services Authority may establish standards, and also requires certain licensed child day care centers to: have their drinking water tested for lead contamination levels and collect and submit drinking water samples to an accredited laboratory. This bill also requires a laboratory that receives a drinking water sample to electronically submit its test results to the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) and places certain requirements on the Board related to the posting of test results on its Internet Web site. This bill also subjects a child day care center to certain requirements in the event of elevated lead levels in drinking water. This bill also requires the Board to provide grants for certain activities related to addressing elevated lead levels in drinking water at child day care centers.

AB 2398 (Mullin) Child care: facilities: funding.
Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have extended from 10 years to 20 years the period within which Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund loans for renovation or repair must be repaid and would have clarified that information on certain loan requests for renovation or repair must be included in the annual report that the Superintendent of Public Instruction is required by current law to submit to the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst’s Office.

AB 2626 (Mullin) Child care services.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 945, Statutes of 2018.

This bill makes, as of July 1, 2019, a number of changes regarding subsidized child care and California State Preschool Programs (CSPPs). Specifically, among other changes, this bill raises the income eligibility threshold for families initially applying for subsidized child care services from 70% of the state median income to 85% of the state median income. This bill also deletes the requirement that a family establishing initial or ongoing eligibility on the basis of seeking employment receive services for no less than six months, thereby requiring these families to be treated like other eligible families and to receive services for no less than 12 months. This bill deletes the requirement that CSPPs operating with funding initially allocated in a prior fiscal year must have at least one-half of enrollment be made up of four-year-olds, and requires any child under four years of age to be served in a CSPP facility, licensed in accordance with state community care licensing regulations. This bill authorizes a center-based child care agency that contracts with the California Department of Education to schedule up to two days of staff training on specified topics per contract period using state reimbursement funding, and increases flexibility in funding adjustments for contractors.

AB 2698 (Rubio) California state preschool programs: general child care and development programs: mental health consultation services: adjustment factors.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 946, Statutes of 2018.

This bill defines "early childhood mental health consultation service" to mean a service that benefits a child who is served in a California State Preschool Program, a child between the ages of zero and 36 months who is served in a general child care and development program, or a child who is zero to five years of age and served in a family child care home education network funded by a general child care and development program, and states that early childhood mental health consultation services include, but are not limited to, an array of certain supports and assistance aimed at addressing mental health concerns and challenging behaviors. This bill also requires the cost to a provider of supplying an early childhood mental health consultation service to be reimbursable pursuant to the section of Education Code governing adjustment factors if that service meets certain criteria, and requires an adjustment factor of 1.05 for child days of enrollment for children served in programs where early childhood mental health consultation services are provided.

AB 2960 (Thurmond) Child care and development services: online portal.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 829, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires, by June 30, 2022, and subject to the availability of public or private funding, the Superintendent of Public Instruction (Superintendent) to develop and post on the California Department of Education's Internet Web site a publically-accessible online portal for California's comprehensive child care and development services. This bill also requires the Superintendent to convene, by June 30, 2019, a stakeholder workgroup that is required to provide recommendations to the Superintendent by June 30, 2020, regarding the online portal, including consideration of an online eligibility screening tool used to assess eligibility for services and consideration of the placement of parents on waiting lists for local subsidized child care programs for which subsidized slots are not readily available. This bill requires the Superintendent to submit a comprehensive plan for implementing the recommendations of the workgroup and a report proposing plans for

enhancements to the online portal based on recommendations received from the workgroup to the appropriate committees of the Legislature by January 1, 2021.

SB 401 (Pan) Child care facilities: state employees.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 235, Statutes of 2017.

This bill deletes provisions of current law pertaining to required child care facilities for state employees that stipulate that the indoor area not be larger than 2,100 square feet nor be less than necessary to accommodate 30 children and that outdoor play area space correspond to indoor play area pursuant to regulations and, instead, requires that indoor and outdoor activity space comply with specified regulations.

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES / FOSTER CARE

AB 320 (Cooley) Child Advocacy Centers.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have authorized a county to use one or more Child Advocacy Centers to implement a coordinated multidisciplinary response to investigate reports involving child physical or sexual abuse, exploitation, or maltreatment and would have enumerated standards that a county utilizing a Child Advocacy Center must require that center to meet. This bill would have authorized the sharing between or among multidisciplinary team members of information and records concerning the subject(s) of child abuse or neglect for the sole purpose of facilitating a forensic interview or case discussion or providing services to the child or family, provided such sharing of information or records is treated as privileged and confidential by the receiving multidisciplinary team members to the extent required by law. This bill would have also included child forensic interviewers and other personnel formally engaged or employed by a Child Advocacy Center as eligible members of a child abuse multidisciplinary team and would have listed Child Advocacy Centers among provider agencies designated in current law pertaining to child abuse multidisciplinary personnel teams.

AB 404 (Mark Stone) Foster care.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 732, Statutes of 2017.

This bill adopts changes to further facilitate implementation of Continuum of Care Reform recommendations enacted by AB 403 (Stone), Chapter 773, Statutes of 2015, to better serve children and youth in California's child welfare services system by adopting, among other things: a number of changes related to foster family agencies, resource families, and resource family approval; a certification process for providers of respite care for foster children; the Intensive Services Foster Care Program; requirements related to outcomes measurement; changes related to effective dates of certain provider rates; changes regarding hearings related to resource families, foster families, and certified family homes to ensure confidentiality and other protections; and changes related to licensed private adoption agencies.

AB 507 (Rubio) Resource families: training topics.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 705, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires a portion of the annual resource family training support the case plans, goals and needs of children in the resource family home in accordance with applicable written directives or regulations as specified by the Department of Social Services. This bill also allows a county, at its

discretion, to require a resource family or applicant to receive one or more hours of relevant specialized training in addition to the training already required by state law.

AB 597 (Mark Stone) Child abuse and neglect: information: computerized database system.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 581, Statutes of 2017.

This bill authorizes Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County, and San Mateo County to jointly establish a computerized database system to be used between and among those counties to enable provider agencies to share identifying information regarding families at risk for child abuse or neglect pursuant to current state law regarding the sharing of such information within individual counties. This bill allows, among other things, for this information to be used for research purposes intended to better serve those families and to prevent abuse and neglect, provided specified assurances regarding the confidentiality of personal identifying information are met. This bill also requires the counties, should the ability to share identifying information pursuant to this bill become available within the statewide child information system, to decommission the computerized database system established pursuant to this bill and requires a county, if any functionality of that county's computerized database system developed pursuant to provisions of this bill becomes fully available and deployed to all counties within the statewide child welfare information system, to decommission the duplicative functionality within its computerized database system.

AB 604 (Gipson) Nonminor dependents: extended foster care benefits.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 707, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires the court to assume transition jurisdiction over a youth who was arrested for or convicted of any nonviolent offense committed while he or she was a victim of human trafficking, regardless of a court order vacating the underlying adjudication. This bill allows a nonminor, regardless of a court order to vacate the underlying adjudication of any nonviolent offense committed while he or she was a victim of human trafficking, to petition the court for the assumption or resumption of transition jurisdiction, and declares that a youth who met certain criteria, regardless of a court order vacating the underlying adjudication of any nonviolent offense committed while he or she was a victim of human trafficking, who is not yet 21 years of age, is within the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court. This bill also requires the Judicial Council, on or before January 1, 2019, to amend and adopt rules of court and develop forms to implement the requirement that the court assume transition jurisdiction over a victim of human trafficking who has had his or her underlying adjudication vacated. The bill also requires, as one condition for provision of Aid to Families with Dependent Children- Foster Care (AFDC-FC) on behalf of a nonminor dependent, that a child is living in the home of a former nonrelated legal guardian.

AB 754 (Acosta) Foster youth: enrichment activities.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS), by January 1, 2019, and upon appropriation by the Legislature, to establish the "California Foster Youth Enrichment Grant Program" to provide grants to foster youth who are between the ages of 6 and 21 and enrolled in an educational institution to participate in activities that enhance their skills, abilities, self-esteem, or overall well-being. This bill would have required DSS to first convene a workgroup made up of individuals that represent the interests of foster youth to develop an implementation plan to maximize the grant program's impact. Grants awarded pursuant to this bill would have been

required to be no more than \$500 and to fund a program, service, or product, and any directly related costs that provides skill development, academic or school-related assistance, or recreational or social participation to a foster youth. This bill would have also placed requirements on DSS related to the development of grant applications and collection of receipts, and would have required DSS to, by January 1, 2022, submit a report to the Legislature containing certain data and information on the grant program; this bill would have required that the submitted report be used to evaluate options for continuing the program after its January 1, 2023, sunset date.

AB 766 (Friedman) Foster youth: students of the California State University and California Community Colleges.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 710, Statutes of 2017.

This bill includes a dormitory or other designated housing of a postsecondary educational institution among the placement options in which a child or nonminor dependent must live in order to be eligible for Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC), and allows a minor dependent who is at least 16 years old who is eligible for AFDC-FC payments to be eligible to receive his or her AFDC-FC payments directly if certain criteria are met. This bill prohibits AFDC-FC payments paid directly to the minor dependent from being considered by the California State University and the California Community Colleges when determining eligibility for financial aid. The bill also prohibits a minor who is receiving court-ordered reunification services from being eligible to live independently in a dormitory or other designated housing if the court finds that the placement could disrupt reunification efforts. This bill also specifies that federal financial participation is not available unless otherwise authorized by federal law.

AB 811 (Gipson) Juveniles: rights: computing technology.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have included reasonable access to computer technology and the Internet to the list of activities that every child adjudged a dependent or ward of the court is entitled to, and would have provided, as of January 1, 2021, reasonable access to computer technology and the Internet for educational purposes and to maintain contact with family members to all minors confined in a facility of the Division of Juvenile Justice. This bill would have maintained the authority of the Director of the Division of Juvenile Justice, as of January 1, 2021, to limit or deny reasonable access to computer technology or the Internet for reasons of safety, security, or staffing. This bill would have allowed minors in a juvenile hall or ranch, camp, or forestry camp to be provided with reasonable access to computer technology and the Internet for educational purposes and in order to maintain relationships with family, and would have preserved the authority of the chief probation officer or his or her designee to limit or deny reasonable access to computer technology or the Internet for reasons of safety, security, or staffing reasons. This bill would have also required each state and local entity to ensure that foster care agencies promote reasonable access to computer technology and the Internet, and would have required group home administrators or facility managers to use a reasonable and prudent parent standard when deciding whether to allow a foster youth to have reasonable access to computer technology and the internet.

AB 991 (Reves) Foster youth: independent living services.

Held on the Senate Inactive File.

This bill would have required, for each county that has an Internet Web site, each county department of social services to publish on its Internet Web site all services offered to Independent Living Program (ILP) participants in order to allow participants to effectively access and utilize those services. This bill would have also required the county department of social services to update published ILP services information on an annual basis, and would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to publish on its ILP Internet Web site direct links to the information provided by each county. This bill would have required DSS to annually review and update those links as needed.

AB 1006 (Maienschein) Foster youth.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 714, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires, whenever a dependent child or ward of the court is placed for adoption or is appointed a relative or guardian, a social worker or probation officer to give the prospective family or guardian(s) information, in writing, about the importance of working with mental health providers. This bill requires the Department of Social (DSS), the county adoption agency, or licensed adoption agency, whichever is applicable, to provide adoptive families with information about mental health services provided through Medi-Cal, and requires those entities to provide information, in writing, about the importance of working with mental health providers. This bill defines “specialized permanency services” as services designed for and with the child to address the child’s history of trauma, separation, and loss, and to assist a youth achieve a permanent placement through reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship, or a lifelong connection with caring adults, and may include medically necessary mental health services, permanent support core services, and services designed to prepare the identified permanent family to meet the needs of the youth. This bill also includes specialized permanency services in the existing range of service-funded activities offered by child welfare services, and includes training on the types of behavioral manifestations of trauma, loss, and grief as part of the Child Welfare Training Program that is required for certain individuals. This bill also requires information regarding specialized permanency services be provided to child and family teams, and requires that, for certain youth, the case plan must include a description of the specialized permanency services used and an explanation as to why those services were not provided in the event that these services were not utilized. This bill also specifies that elements of specialized permanency services can be included in a youth’s case plan in order to meet the youth’s permanency needs, and requires that, if a goal of a child’s case plan is another planned permanent living arrangement, a statement of the child’s wishes regarding placement be included in the case plan.

AB 1039 (Quirk-Silva) As introduced February 16, 2017: CalFresh: nonminor dependents: supervised independent living placement.

As amended March 14, 2017: Racial and identity profiling: reporting: peace officer.

Held in the Assembly Rules Committee.

While originally referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was amended substantially on March 14, 2017, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

AB 1164 (Thurmond) As introduced February 17, 2017: Foster care placement: funding.
As amended July 6, 2017: School district annual budgets and certificated school employees.
Held in the Senate Education Committee (not heard).

While originally referred to and heard by the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was amended substantially on July 6, 2017, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

AB 1332 (Bloom) Juveniles: dependents: removal.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 665, Statutes of 2017.

This bill establishes a standard for removing a dependent child from the physical custody of a noncustodial parent and prohibits a dependent child from being removed from the custody of a parent with whom the child did not live when a dependency petition was initiated, unless the court finds clear and convincing evidence that there would be substantial danger to the physical health, safety, protection, or physical or emotional well-being of the child for the parent to either live with the child or have physical custody of the child, and there are no reasonable means by which the child's physical and emotional health can be protected unless the child is removed from the physical custody of the parent.

AB 1371 (Mark Stone) Juveniles: ward, dependent, and nonminor dependent parents.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 666, Statutes of 2017.

This bill expands, to include parents who are wards or nonminor dependents, in addition to minor dependents, the requirement that if counsel has been appointed for that parent, a social worker may not undertake a voluntary program of supervision for the child until the parent has consulted with an attorney. This bill requires the ward, if the ward is not represented by counsel in a dependency proceeding, be given the opportunity to consult with his or her counsel in the wardship proceeding. This bill also eliminates the provision that, where one or both minor parents are wards, reunification services don't need to be provided in instances where there has been a termination of reunification services or permanent severance of parental rights over any siblings or half siblings unless certain conditions apply. This bill also requires, where one or both minor parents are wards of the court, a person seeking foster care placement or termination of parental rights over a child, to demonstrate that efforts were made to prevent the removal of the child and the efforts were unsuccessful. This bill also requires that a parent who is under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court must be informed of his or her right to consult with legal counsel prior to certain events.

AB 1375 (Dababneh) Foster care: placements: database.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required certain Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) agencies, short-term residential therapeutic programs (STRTPs), community treatment facilities, and community care facilities vendorized by regional centers, to provide certain information to the Department of Social Services (DSS) relating to capacity and services offered, and would have exempted foster family homes and resource family homes from these reporting requirements. This bill would have also required DSS to create and maintain a database on its Internet Web site to allow county welfare departments and county probation departments to view the collected information for purposes of placing youth in facilities in a timely manner, and would have required DSS, on a bi-

annual basis, to review information obtained from the database in order to assess for capacity and the availability of certain services and publicly report its findings on its Internet Web site.

AB 1446 (Cooley) Dependent children: periodic review hearing.
Held on the Senate Inactive File.

This bill would have required, in any case where a minor or nonminor dependent is placed for more than 15 consecutive calendar days in an emergency, temporary care or transitional shelter, or is residing in a homeless shelter or hotel due to a lack of placement, the court to review at least every 15 days the actions taken by the social worker to find a placement for the youth, including a review of efforts made to identify and locate adult relatives of the youth.

AB 1567 (Holden) Public postsecondary education: California State University: California Community Colleges: foster youth: Higher Education Outreach and Assistance Act for Foster Youth.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 763, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services and county welfare departments to, in coordination with the California State University (CSU) and the California Community Colleges (CCC), coordinate with staff of the CSU Educational Opportunity Program, the CCC Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, or Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support, as appropriate, to verify eligibility of foster youth for participation in programs and other benefits. This bill also requires the following of each CCC campus upon admission of a foster youth and CSU campus upon determination that an enrolled or applying student is a current or former foster youth and is eligible for financial aid: notify the student about appropriate campus support programs; notify the study of his or her eligibility for financial aid; and provide the student with instructions for accessing benefits for which he or she has qualified.

AB 1694 (Mark Stone) Foster care payments: income.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 10, Statutes of 2018.

This bill deletes language prohibiting foster care payments from being considered foster parent or child income when determining eligibility and benefit amounts for certain state or federal programs except as required by federal law, and enacts this bill as an urgency statute.

AB 1784 (Maienschein) Resource families: pilot program: supportive services.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to establish a pilot program in up to five counties to increase placement stability for foster youth and facilitate greater resource family retention through strengths-based, skills-based, trauma-informed coaching. This bill would have also required the pilot program to provide coaching to resource families who volunteer to participate in the pilot project through a trained mentor, social worker, or mental health care provider who has received the pilot program coaching training. This bill would have required DSS to, no later than June 30, 2019, consult relevant stakeholders, and requires DSS to consider stakeholder recommendations related to the parameters of the pilot program, such as application and selection criteria for participating counties and coaches, coaching program curriculum, and criteria to be used by counties to evaluate the effectiveness of the program in achieving the overall goals of the

program. This bill would have required a county that elects to participate to conduct at least one evaluation of the program's impact and effectiveness on increasing placement stability for foster youth and retaining resource families in accordance with, and upon issuance of guidance from, DSS. This bill would have also required DSS to report evaluation information to the Legislature and would have also repealed the provisions of the bill as of January 1, 2022.

AB 1930 (Mark Stone) Foster care.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 910, Statutes of 2018.

This bill adopts changes to further facilitate implementation of Continuum of Care Reform recommendations enacted by AB 403 (Stone), Chapter 773, Statutes of 2015, and subsequent legislation to better serve children and youth in California's child welfare services system by enacting, among many other things, the following changes: deleting language enabling a foster family agency to continue review of a resource family application under certain circumstances for an applicant that has had a previous denial, rescission, revocation, or exemption denial or exemption rescission by the Department of Social Services or county, and stipulating when resource family approval must be forfeited and establishing related requirements; including resource families under the Foster Family Home and Small Family Home Insurance Fund; authorizing a waiver of the requirement for a 14-day notice regarding out-of-county placement under specified circumstances; establishing circumstances and conditions under which foster caregivers are immune from liability in a civil action to recover damages based on actions or omissions related to exercise of a reasonable and prudent parent standard or on actions or omissions of a child or nonminor dependent; clarifying certain criminal background check requirements; authorizing a county to cease any further review of a resource family application if, after written notice to the applicant, the applicant fails to complete an application without good faith effort and within 30 days of the notice, with certain exemptions; authorizing until December 31, 2019, the approved home of a relative or nonrelative extended family member to function as an intensive services foster care resource family; and extending by one year, to January 1, 2020, the following: the deadline for required accreditation of community treatment facility programs, certain authorizations and requirements related to group homes with a rate classification level of 13 or 14, Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care eligibility for placement in group homes with extensions, and authorizations and requirements related to rates for group homes with extensions.

AB 2043 (Arambula) Foster children and youth: family urgent response system.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have required, by January 1, 2020, and subject to appropriation, county child welfare, probation, and behavioral health agencies to establish county-based "Family Urgent Response Systems" for the provision of mobile crisis-response services to current or former foster youth and their caregivers, and, by that same date and subject to appropriation, would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to establish a statewide hotline, to be available 24 hours per day, seven days per week to respond to caregiver or youth calls when a crisis arises. Specifically, this bill would have defined "Family Urgent Response System" to mean a coordinated statewide, regional, and county-level system designed to provide in-home, in-person mobile crisis response that is collaborative and timely and used to stabilize a living situation, mitigate distress, and link caregivers and children or youth to existing services, and would have required such systems, established either solely by individual counties or as part of a cross-county regional effort to include a mobile response and stabilization team to provide stabilization services for caregivers or current or

former foster children or youth experiencing a crisis. This bill would have required the statewide hotline established by DSS pursuant to this bill to maintain contact information for all county Family Urgent Response Systems for referral to local services. This bill would have also required DSS to ensure that de-identified, aggregated data are collected on the individuals served through the statewide hotline and to publish an annual report on the DSS Internet Web site. This bill would have required DSS, in consultation with stakeholders, to: develop methods and materials for caregivers and children or youth about the statewide hotline; establish protocols for triage and response; establish minimum education and training requirements for hotline workers; and consider expanding the statewide hotline to include communication through electronic means. This bill would have required funds expended pursuant to the provisions of this bill to be used to supplement, and not supplant, other existing funding for mobile response services.

AB 2083 (Cooley) Foster youth: trauma-informed system of care.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 815, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires, in order to provide adequate services to severely traumatized youth, each county, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop and implement a memorandum of understanding (MOU) detailing the roles and responsibilities of various entities, and requires the MOU to include provisions that address the establishment and operation of an interagency leadership team and placement committee, commitment to implementation of an integrated core practice model, processes for screening and assessing youth, and information and data sharing agreements, among other duties. This bill also allows members of the leadership team and interagency placement committee to disclose to and exchange with each other certain confidential information if that information is believed to be relevant to the identification, reduction, or elimination of barriers to providing services to foster youth who have experienced severe trauma. This bill also subjects team members to protocols related to the handling of certain confidential information. This bill instructs the Secretary of California Health and Human Services and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to, no later than June 1, 2019, establish a joint interagency resolution team consisting of representatives from the Department of Social Services, Department of Health Care Services, Department of Developmental Services, and the California Department of Education, to complete various tasks related to the provision of services for foster youth who have experienced severe trauma. This bill also permits members of the joint interagency resolution team to disclose to, and exchange with, one another information or writings that may be confidential if the team member disclosing the information believes the information is relevant to the identification, reduction, or elimination of barriers to services for, or to placement of, youth in foster care, or to improve provision of services.

AB 2119 (Gloria and Wiener) Foster care: gender affirming health care and mental health care.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 385, Statutes of 2018.

This bill clarifies that a foster youth's right, pursuant to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights in current law, to be involved in the development of his or her own case plan and plan for permanent placement includes, but is not limited to, the development of case plan elements related to placement and gender affirming health care, with consideration of gender identity, and, further, clarifies that the right of minors and nonminors in foster care to health care and mental health care includes covered gender affirming health care and gender affirming mental health care and subjects this right to existing laws governing consent to health care. This bill defines "gender affirming health care" to

mean medically necessary health care that respects the gender identity of the patient, as experienced and defined by the patient, that may include, but not be limited to: interventions to suppress the development of endogenous secondary sex characteristics; interventions to align the patient's appearance or physical body with the patient's gender identity; and interventions to alleviate the symptoms of clinically significant distress resulting from gender dysphoria. This bill also defines "gender affirming mental health care" to mean mental health care or behavioral health care that respects the gender identity of the patient, as experienced and defined by the patient, that may include, but not be limited to: developmentally appropriate exploration and integration of identity; reduction of distress; adaptive coping; and strategies to increase family acceptance. This bill requires the Department of Social Services to, in consultation with stakeholders, develop and issue written guidance regarding foster youth access to gender affirming health care and gender affirming mental health care by January 1, 2020.

AB 2183 (Rubio and Reyes) Foster care: resource family.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File.

This bill would have defined an emergency caregiver as an individual who has a pending resource family application and who has either been assessed by a county welfare department or who has successfully completed the home environment assessment section of the resource family approval process. This bill would have also required a county welfare department to initiate emergency funding immediately following the placement of a child with a relative or nonrelative extended family member (NREFM) who has not yet been approved as a resource family, which may include reasonable travel for the child to remain in the school at which he or she was enrolled at the time of placement. This bill would have required a county to pay an amount equal to the resource family basic level rate of the home-based family care rate structure to an emergency caregiver effective the date of the placement of the child or nonminor dependent. This bill would have also deemed a child as eligible for the Approved Relative Caregiver Funding Program for purposes of providing payment to caregivers if the emergency caregiver is a relative and if it is determined that the child would be ineligible for Aid to Families with Dependent Children- Foster Care (AFDC-FC). This bill would have required that, if the emergency caregiver is a NREFM or the youth would be determined to be eligible for AFDC-FC when placed with the relative upon approval as a resource family, payments to the provider be made through the Emergency Assistance Program included in the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant. This bill would have also allowed a county to waive the permanency assessment criteria and approve an individual or family as a resource family upon completion of a home environment assessment, and before the completion of a permanency assessment, and would have required counties to comply with certain requirements related to the waiver.

AB 2207 (Eggman) Commercially sexually exploited children.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 757, Statutes of 2018.

This bill places a deadline of January 1, 2020, on the requirement in current law that the Department of Social Services, in consultation with stakeholders, must develop model policies, procedures, and protocols to assist counties achieve certain goals related to the commercial sexual exploitation of youth receiving child welfare services.

AB 2247 (Gipson and Cooley) Foster youth: case plan: placement changes.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 674, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires a social worker or placing agency to develop and implement a strategy to preserve an existing placement, known as the placement preservation strategy, in consultation with the dependent child's child and family team, prior to making changes in a placement of a dependent child, and requires the placement preservation strategy to be included within the dependent child's case notes in the statewide child information system. This bill also requires the social worker or placing agency, if that worker or agency finds that a placement change is necessary after implementation of the placement preservation strategy, to serve written notice, at least 14 days before the placement change, on a dependent child's parent or guardian, caregiver, and attorney, and the dependent child if that child is at least 10 years old. This bill prohibits any placement change from taking place between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m., except by the mutual agreement of specified parties, including the dependent child, if he or she is at least 10 years of age, or the representative of the dependent child if he or she is under 10 years of age. This bill also requires the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson, if a complaint is made to the office alleging a violation of placement change requirements, and an investigation is made into that complaint, to provide the findings of the investigation to the county child welfare director, or his or her designee, for the purposes of training, technical assistance, and quality improvement. This bill authorizes a social worker or placing agency to change a dependent child's placement without meeting the requirements set forth by this bill in either of the following instances: if it is determined that remaining in the existing placement or providing prior written notice of the placement change poses a threat to the health or safety of the dependent child or other children in the home or facility; or if the dependent child's child and family team and the dependent child, if he or she is at least 10 years old, or the representative of the dependent child, unanimously agree to waive the requirements set forth in the bill related to the placement preservation strategy and 14-day notice of placement change.

AB 2323 (Rubio) Child abuse or neglect: foster children.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have, for certain entities, including police, sheriff's, county probation, or county welfare departments receiving a reported allegation of abuse or neglect: required the entity, within 24 hours, to notify Community Care Licensing (CCL) and coordinate efforts with CCL to provide a response to investigate the report; allowed the entity and CCL to collaborate to develop protocols for implementing notification of the licensing agency and coordination of investigations; required the entity, within 24 hours, to notify the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson; and required, upon completion of the investigation, the entity and the licensing agency to send a copy of the investigation to the Ombudsperson. This bill would have also required an investigation of a reported allegation to include a face-to-face interview with: the victim of suspected abuse or neglect, any other child who is believed to have knowledge of the alleged incident and was residing in the facility at the time of the alleged incident, and any adults residing in, or staff present at, the community care facility at the time of the alleged incident of abuse or neglect. This bill would have also required an investigator to, to the best of his or her ability, maintain the privacy of all minors and nonminor dependents involved in the investigation. This bill would have also required any interview conducted with the suspected victim or any other children be conducted separate and apart from the suspected offender, and would have required the investigation conducted by the entity or CCL be completed within 30 days of the entity receiving the initial report. This bill would have also

included the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson among the list of entities to whom reports of suspected child abuse or neglect may be disclosed, but would have limited access to reports to instances in which the reported incidence of child abuse or neglect involves a foster youth and occurred in a community care facility.

AB 2337 (Gipson and Friedman) Nonminor dependents.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 539, Statutes of 2018.

This bill expands the circumstances under which a nonminor dependent under the age of 21 who was previously a dependent or delinquent child of the juvenile court may petition the court to assume dependency jurisdiction to include youth who would have received Kinship Guardian Assistance Program (Kin-GAP) payments were it not for the receipt of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or other aid from the federal Social Security Administration (SSA). This bill also extends eligibility to Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care, adoption assistance payments, and Kin-GAP to nonminor dependents who, but for the receipt of SSI benefits or other aid from the federal SSA, would have received benefits.

AB 2340 (Friedman) Nonminor dependents: victims of sexual trafficking.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File.

This bill would have allowed a nonminor former dependent who, before turning 16 years of age, was receiving Kinship Guardian Assistance Program (Kin-GAP) aid, and was a victim of sexual trafficking before his or her adoption was vacated or guardianship terminated, to petition the court to assume dependency jurisdiction. This bill would have also required the juvenile court in which the petition was filed to order a hearing within 15 days of the date of a petition to assume dependency was received. This bill would have specified that a nonminor former dependent who, before turning 16 years of age, was receiving adoption assistance payments or was receiving Kin-GAP aid and was a victim of sexual trafficking before his or her adoption was vacated or guardianship terminated may be eligible for reentry into the dependency system.

AB 2448 (Gipson) Juveniles: rights: computing technology.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 997, Statutes of 2018.

This bill includes access to computer technology and the Internet among the activities that every child adjudged a dependent or ward of the juvenile court is entitled to, and requires minors detained in or committed to a juvenile hall, ranch, camp, or forestry camp be provided with access to computer technology and the Internet for educational purposes, and permits access to computer technology and the Internet to maintain relationships with family and supportive adults. This bill also preserves the authority of the chief probation officer, or his or her designee, to limit or deny access to computer technology or the Internet for safety and security for staffing reasons.

AB 2605 (Gipson and Chiu) As introduced February 15, 2018: Foster care facilities.

As amended August 22, 2018: Rest breaks: petroleum facilities: safety-sensitive positions.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 584, Statutes of 2018.

While originally referred to and heard by the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was substantially amended on August 22, 2018, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

AB 2830 (Reyes) As introduced February 16, 2018: Child welfare services.
As amended April 2, 2018: County agencies: interns and student assistants: hiring preference.
Chapered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 878, Statutes of 2018.

While originally referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was re-referred to the Assembly Public Employees, Retirement, and Social Security Committee on April 5, 2018.

AB 2905 (Acosta) Foster youth: enrichment activities.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense Committee File.

This bill would have established the “California Foster Youth Enrichment Grant Pilot Program” in four counties to provide grants to foster youth to participate in activities that enhance their skills, abilities, self-esteem, or overall well-being. This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS), by March 1, 2019, to convene a workgroup including foster youth and resource parents to develop an implementation plan to maximize the grant pilot program’s impact and, by January 1, 2020, and upon appropriation by the Legislature and in consideration of the implementation plan developed pursuant to provisions of this bill, to establish the “California Foster Youth Enrichment Grant Pilot Program,” to be conducted in two rural and two urban counties, selected by DSS based on the highest need, to be defined by the workgroup. This bill would have required grants to be awarded to a foster youth who is between the ages of 6 and 21, and to be no more than \$500 and to fund a program, service, or product, and any directly related costs, that provide any of the following to a foster youth: skill development; academic or school-related assistance; or recreational or social participation. This bill would have also required DSS to submit a report to the Legislature containing certain data and information on the grant program by January 1, 2022, to be used to evaluate options for continuing the program after December 31, 2022.

AB 3006 (Mark Stone) Child welfare services: recipients who are deaf and hard of hearing.
Held in the Senate Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have required each county welfare department to designate one staff person to serve as the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Coordinator to facilitate the delivery of child welfare services to children in the county who are deaf or hard of hearing. This bill would have required the coordinator to meet certain criteria and fulfill certain responsibilities, including: be fluent in American Sign Language, be familiar with accommodation options for children who are deaf and hard of hearing, and oversee and facilitate accommodations for communication between county staff and children and parents who are deaf and hard of hearing and their families who are receiving child welfare services, among other criteria and responsibilities. This bill would have also instructed the Department of Social Services (DSS) to establish a “Deaf Services Manager” within the Children and Family Services Division of the department in order to oversee implementation of the provisions of the bill, and to serve as a resource for county Deaf and Hard of Hearing Coordinators. This bill would have also required DSS to establish a working group to consult on the role and responsibilities of the Deaf Services Manager and the development of materials.

AB 3046 (Gipson) Foster care: rights.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have recast and expanded the Foster Youth Bill of Rights to declare it the policy of the state that all minors and nonminors in foster care have the right to, among other things: receive grooming and hygiene products regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity and expression; receive substance use disorder services; be placed with a relative or nonrelative extended family member if appropriate and available; be placed in the least restrictive setting possible unless otherwise ordered by a court; be referred to by his or her preferred name and gender pronoun; maintain, where permitted by law, the privacy or his or her lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning status and gender identity; have access to gender affirming health care and gender affirming behavioral health services; review and receive copies of pertinent records pertaining to the youth at no cost to the youth prior to the age of 26; and have reasonable access to computer technology and the Internet.

AB 3076 (Reyes) Indian child welfare: legal services.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the State Bar of California, upon appropriation of no less than \$1,000,000 in the annual Budget Act, to administer grants to qualified legal services projects and support centers in order to provide legal services to Indian tribes in child welfare matters. This bill would have also required the grants be provided only to qualified legal services projects and support centers that have experience handling child welfare matters under the federal Indian Child Welfare Act or providing legal services to Indian tribes.

AB 3161 (Patterson) Child welfare services: substance use disorder.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to, no later than December 31, 2019, submit a report to the Legislature that includes certain data for each year from 2010 through 2018, inclusive, including: the total number of referrals to child welfare services; the percentage of recorded referrals which warranted an in-person child welfare services visit, and which resulted in substantiated allegations of child neglect, maltreatment, or abuse; the percentage of substantiated allegations in which substance use disorder was suspected and noted by the case worker; and the percentage of substantiated allegations of substance use disorder that resulted in the child or child's caregiver, or both, seeking substance use disorder treatment. This bill would have also required DSS to submit an annual report to the Legislature detailing the aforementioned data for the previous year. This bill would have also instructed DSS to note in its report any data that could not be collected or shared due to privacy laws.

AB 3176 (Waldron) Indian children.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 833, Statutes of 2018.

This bill makes a number of changes to state law regarding the removal of Indian children from their families and their out-of-home placement in order to conform to changes to federal regulations governing the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). These changes include, among a number of other things: revising, recasting, and clarifying provisions of current law related to tribal jurisdiction in Indian child custody cases; setting forth procedures for determining an Indian child's tribe for an

Indian child who meets the definition of "Indian child" through more than one tribe; revising and clarifying requirements and processes related to removal, detention, emergency placement, and release from custody of an Indian child; recasting provisions of current law regarding court determination that good cause exists to not follow placement preferences; prohibiting a departure from placement preferences to be based on socioeconomic status of any placement relative to another placement and prohibiting a placement from departing from the preferences based solely on ordinary bonding or attachment that flowed from time spent in a non-preferred placement that was made in violation of ICWA; and requiring the active efforts to provide remedial services and rehabilitative programs aimed at family maintenance to be documented in detail in the court record.

SB 12 (Beall) Foster youth: postsecondary education: financial aid assistance.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 722, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires the California Student Aid Commission to work with the Department of Social Services (DSS) to develop an automated system to verify a student's foster youth status for purposes of processing applications for federal financial aid. The bill also increases from a maximum of 10 to a maximum of 20 the number of community college districts in which the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office can enter into agreements under the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program to provide additional funds for services in support of postsecondary education for foster youth. This bill requires the case plan of a foster youth who is 16 years of age or older or a nonminor dependent to identify an adult responsible for assisting the youth with college and financial aid applications, unless the youth states that he or she does not wish to pursue postsecondary education. The bill requires, if at any point in the future the youth expresses that he or she wishes to pursue postsecondary education, the case plan be updated to identify an adult responsible for aiding the youth with college and financial aid applications. The bill also extends the date by which the California Community Colleges Board of Governors must submit their initial report to the Legislature and the California Child Welfare Council regarding efforts to serve students who are current and former foster youth from March 31, 2018, to March 31, 2020.

SB 190 (Mitchell and Lara) Juveniles.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 678, Statutes of 2017.

While originally referred to both the Assembly Public Safety and Human Services Committees, this bill was amended on June 20, 2017, and re-referred solely to the Public Safety Committee.

SB 213 (Mitchell) Placement of children: criminal records check.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 733, Statutes of 2017.

This bill makes a number of changes related to criminal record exemptions for certain caregivers and specifies the criteria the Department of Social Services (DSS) must consider when deciding whether to grant a criminal records exemption. This bill prohibits giving final approval for an adoptive placement where the prospective adoptive parent or an adult living in the home has been convicted of an offense for which an exemption cannot be granted as defined by the provisions of the bill. This bill allows certain approving entities to grant an exemption from disqualification as a caregiver if there is a reasonable belief that the individual is of present good character and the conviction is for certain crimes specified by the provisions of the bill. This bill also prohibits a child from being placed in the home of an able and willing relative, nonrelated extended family member, or a relative, prospective guardian or other person who is not a licensed or certified foster parent if the criminal

records check indicates that the person has been convicted of a crime for which an exemption cannot be offered, or if the individual has not been granted a criminal record exemption. This bill allows a child to be placed on an emergency basis if it is determined that the placement is in the best interest of the child and there is no objection to the placement. This bill denies approval of a resource family home if a criminal record check shows that a person has been convicted of a non-exemptible offense, and specifies that if the criminal records check shows that the person has been convicted of an offense that may require an exemption, then the home may not be approved unless an exemption is granted. This bill also requires DSS to convene a stakeholder group to develop and implement recommendations for streamlining the criminal exemptions process for prospective employees in children's residential settings.

SB 233 (Beall) Foster children: records.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 829, Statutes of 2017.

This bill expands the list of individuals who may access a currently enrolled or former student's educational records to include certain short-term residential therapeutic program staff, and certain caregivers, including a certified or licensed foster parent, an approved relative or nonrelated extended family member, or a resource family. This bill authorizes a caregiver to access certain information regardless of whether the caregiver has been appointed as the pupil's educational rights holder and allows certain individuals to review pupil records. This bill specifies caregivers' rights to access and maintain educational and health information, and includes the caregivers' role in education as part of the training requirements that must be completed by resource family applicants. This bill also specifies the instances in which a caregiver who is not the student's educational rights holder must notify the educational rights holder, or the student's social worker or attorney, of certain information. This bill also addresses the rights of certain caregivers to maintain health and education information, and specifies the duties of certain individuals in assisting caregivers to obtain relevant health and education information. This bill also requires the health and education summary to include the contact information of the individual holding the right to make educational decisions for the child, and allows that contact information to be withheld in certain circumstances. This bill requires the health and education summary be included in an assessment whenever the court orders a hearing to terminate parental rights, and be included in the mandated supplemental report related to the periodic review of a youth in foster care. This bill also requires a youth's case plan to include the health and education summary, a factual discussion of educational decisions, and an assurance that the placement agency provided the health and education passport to the current caregiver.

SB 245 (Leyva) Foster youth: sexual health education.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services to develop a curriculum relating to sexual and reproductive health care for foster youth and nonminor dependents which would have included the rights of foster youth to sexual and reproductive health care information and the right to confidentiality, how to document sensitive health information, and guidance on how to engage with foster youth regarding healthy sexual development, among other factors. This bill would have also permitted the use of the curriculum among and in the classroom instruction provided by administrator certification programs for group homes and short-term residential therapeutic programs, certified foster parent annual training, statewide coordinated training programs for mandated child abuse reporters, preapproval caregiver training topics for resource family applicants, and the training developed by the Judicial Council for the education and training of judges. This bill

would have specified that the case plan for foster youth who are 10 years of age or older to be updated to reflect whether the youth received comprehensive sexual health education during the previous year, and would have required, in the event that the youth did not receive the education, the case plan to document either that the youth has already received the education during middle school or high school, or how the county will ensure that the youth will receive the education at least once prior to exiting middle school or high school, as applicable. This bill would have also required the case plan for foster youth who are 10 years of age and older be updated yearly to indicate that the case manager has: informed the youth that he or she may access medically accurate information regarding sexual health care; informed the youth in an appropriate way of his or her rights to consent to sexual and reproductive health services; and informed the youth about how to access those services. This bill would have also specified that updates to the youth's case plan regarding sexual health education may not be construed to affect applicable confidentiality laws.

SB 332 (Stern and Gonzalez Fletcher) Voter registration: foster youth.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 161, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to provide voter registration information on certain documents and Internet Web sites used by foster youth and nonminor dependents, including: a flyer for the Independent Living Program, the form used for a nonminor dependent to enter into a mutual agreement or voluntary reentry agreement, the form used to create a transitional independent living plan, the department's Internet Web site for the Independent Living Program, and the Office of the Foster Care Ombudsman's Internet Web site, and requires the information include the voter registration page on the Secretary of State's Internet Web site, the toll-free telephone number maintained by the Secretary of State that contains election-related information, and the email address of the Secretary of State. This bill allows a county social worker to provide a voter registration form to a foster child 16 years of age or older or to a nonminor dependent, and allows DSS to implement the provisions of this bill by means of an all-county letter or similar instructions without taking regulatory action.

SB 426 (Pan) Community-based home visitation pilot program.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have established the "Community-Based Home Visitation Program" as a pilot program in up to three counties to provide child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention services through one family resource center in each county, to be implemented to the extent an appropriation is made for the purposes of this bill. This bill would have required the Department of Social Services' Office of Child Abuse Prevention (Office) to administer the program and would have permitted the Office to contract with a vendor or vendors for administration of some or all of the program. This bill would have also placed a number of requirements on family resource centers participating in the pilot program including, among other things, that the center use an evidence-based, community-based home visitation model and provide services that are respectful of all members of the community and reflect the diversity of the population culturally and linguistically. This bill would have stipulated that any funds appropriated for the implementation of the pilot program shall not supplant or replace any existing funding for programs currently serving the needs of at-risk children and families, and would have permitted the administering agency of a county in which a pilot site was located to integrate the pilot program into existing county plans for child abuse prevention programs. This bill would have also required the Office to secure an independent evaluator to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of each pilot program and to

report interim and final results of this evaluation to the Legislature. The provisions of this bill would have sunset on January 1, 2025.

SB 438 (Roth and Waldron) Juveniles: legal guardianship: successor guardian.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 307, Statutes of 2017.

This bill allows the preliminary assessment of a prospective adoptive parent or guardian contained in the mandatory assessment prepared for a dispositional or review hearing by the agency supervising the child and the county adoption agency, or the Department of Social Services, to include the name of a prospective successor guardian, if one is identified. The bill allows, in the event of the incapacity or death of the appointed guardian, the assessment and appointment of the named successor guardian.

SB 612 (Mitchell) Foster care: transitional housing.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 731, Statutes of 2017.

This bill specifies a number of requirements for program and case managers for transitional housing placement programs for nonminor dependents, including educational requirements, documentation of education and experience, and the process for seeking an exemption from these requirements, and clarifies educational requirements for social workers at a foster family agency. This bill includes licensure as a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor in the list of educational areas that an individual who has a master's degree or higher may be considered qualified to perform social work activities in a foster family agency. This bill clarifies the existing definition of "transitional housing placement provider," and allows a certified foster family home or resource family of a foster family agency to be concurrently certified as a host family if certain criteria are met. This bill allows a transitional housing placement provider to operate either a transitional housing placement program for participants who are minor foster children or who are nonminor dependents. This bill makes a number of changes to the operational requirements of transitional housing placement programs, including adopting changes to compliance requirements with certain health and safety standards, delineating the permissible types of transitional housing units, and including a program statement in the provider's plan of operation. This bill authorizes a nonminor dependent to cosign a lease with the Department of Social Services (DSS) while prohibiting a participant from solely signing a rental or lease agreement. This bill also enumerates a list of required, age-appropriate regulations to govern transitional placement providers. This bill also addresses issues of evaluating and placing minor and nonminor program participants with nonparticipants and authorizes DSS to implement the provisions of this bill through all-county letters or similar written instructions.

SB 925 (Beall) Foster care.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 151, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires a child's or youth's Court-Appointed Special Advocate, if one has been appointed and unless the child or youth objects, to be included on the child's or youth's child and family team.

SB 1083 (Mitchell and Rubio) Resource family approval.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 935, Statutes of 2018.

This bill makes several changes to the resource family approval program related to foster family homes that have not yet been approved as resource family homes, and allows a resource family applicant who withdraws an application prior to its approval or denial to submit the reapplication

within 12 months of withdrawal, and maintains the ability of a foster family agency, or county, as applicable, to require an applicant to complete an application activity, even if the activity was previously completed. This bill also extends from July 1, 2017, to July 1, 2019, the date by which a foster family agency must provide information about the resource family approval program to its certified family homes and a county must provide information about the resource family approval program to licensed family homes, and approved relatives and nonrelated extended family members. This bill also requires certain notification of caregivers to include a deadline of December 31, 2020, for resource family approval, which is a year extension of the December 31, 2019, deadline in current law. This bill also extends from December 31, 2019, to December 31, 2020, the date by which all certificates of approval for certified family homes, all foster family home licenses, and licenses for a certified family home or a foster family home licensee with a pending resource application must be forfeited. This bill also extends from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2021: the date by which certain youth are eligible for Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care, the period during which caregivers are eligible or the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children child care vouchers or payments, and the authority for a county to arrange respite care for certain caregivers. This bill also deletes the requirement that a minor who is separated or is in the process of being separated from his or her family under a voluntary agreement be placed in an approved placement, and instead allows the minor to be placed in a placement regardless of whether it has been approved. This bill also requires, for a child who is placed on an emergency basis with a family that has successfully completed the home environmental assessment, a permanency assessment be completed within 90 days of the application to become a resource family, unless good cause exists. This bill also instructs the county, if additional time is needed to complete the permanency assessment, to document the reasons for the delay and provide a timeframe for expected completion, and requires the county to report on a quarterly basis the number of families with emergency placements whose permanency assessment extends beyond 90 days, and the reasons for those delays.

COMMUNITY CARE LICENSING

AB 501 (Ridley-Thomas) Mental health: community care facilities.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 704, Statutes of 2017.

This bill allows a short-term residential therapeutic program (STRTP) to be operated as a children's crisis residential program (CCRP), and defines a CCRP as a facility licensed by the Department of Social Services (DSS) as an STRTP or a county mental health plan with approval authority to operate a children's crisis residential mental health program to serve children experiencing mental health crises as an alternative to psychiatric hospitalization. This bill allows DSS to license an STRTP as a children's crisis residential program if certain criteria are met and requires DSS to begin implementation of the provisions of this bill no later than July 1, 2018, contingent upon a budget appropriation. This bill allows a CCRP to accept any child who meets certain requirements, including those referred by parents/guardians, a representative of a public or private entity, or a county probation agency or child welfare agency that has the right to make decisions on behalf of a child experiencing a mental health crisis, as well as any child that would otherwise require acceptance by an emergency department of a hospital, or admission into a psychiatric hospital or the psychiatric inpatient unit of a general hospital. This bill requires DSS to establish regulations for STRTPs that are operated as a CCRP, and requires an STRTP operating as a CCRP to have a children's crisis residential mental health program approval by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) or a county Mental Health Plan (MHP). This bill also allows DHCS or a county

MHP to suspend or revoke a program approval for a CCRP, impose penalties, or place a CCRP on probation and require corrective actions by a CCRP in the event of noncompliance. This bill also requires DSS to establish due process protections related to the mental health program approval process of a CCRP, and requires a CCRP to annually provide DSS with certain information pertaining to children served, including foster children, when seeking a license renewal.

AB 605 (Mullin) Child day care facilities: infant to schoolage license.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 574, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to, in consultation with stakeholders, adopt regulations by January 1, 2021, to create a child care center license to serve infant, toddler, preschool, and school-age children with all respective health and safety requirements, and requires all day care centers to be licensed as child care centers pursuant to the provisions of this bill by January 1, 2024. This bill requires that the regulations adopted pursuant to provisions of this bill include, but not be limited to: components for serving infant, toddler, preschool, and school-age children; health and safety standards for children in care; and enhanced ability to transition children from one age group to the next. This bill also requires DSS to, during the development and adoption of the regulations required by provisions of this bill, consider best practices for continuity of care of the children and parents being served. This bill authorizes DSS to charge an applicant for a child care center license a fee commensurate with license fee schedules established for day care centers in current law, and also authorizes DSS to extend the period for participation in the toddler program for a maximum of three months for a child in extenuating circumstances, on the request of the day care center, if the center can establish that it is unable to find an alternative placement.

AB 713 (Chu) Continuing care retirement facilities: transfers of residents.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 613, Statutes of 2017.

This bill clarifies a resident’s right to dispute a continuing care retirement community transfer decision. This bill requires an assessment tool, which includes an evaluation of the physical and cognitive abilities of the resident, be used when determining whether it is appropriate to transfer the resident. The bill requires that a copy of the assessment be provided to the resident or his or her responsible person, and requires a provider, for disputed transfers, to provide documentation of the resident’s medical reports, among other documents, and include an explanation of how certain criteria in current law are met. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to provide a description of the steps taken by a provider when a resident is transferred, as well as certain criteria used by the provider to justify the transfer, and requires DSS to determine whether a disputed transfer is appropriate and necessary.

AB 853 (Choi) Continuing care retirement communities.

Held in the Assembly Aging and Long Term Care Committee (not heard).

This bill would have expanded the definition of a “repayable contract” for continuing care facilities as a continuing care contract that includes a promise to repay all or a portion of an entrance fee that is based on the sequential order of termination of all repayable contracts at the facility. This bill would have also specified, for purposes of restrictions placed on construction of a continuing care retirement community, that construction on a continuing care retirement community does not include the construction of care facilities or buildings that provide community amenities and services or otherwise are not residential living units, and would have required the Department of Social Services

to consider the availability of financing to cover any projected shortfalls in revenues from resident fees when determining the economic viability of a continuing care retirement community. This bill would have also allowed a provider to satisfy all or a portion of its liquid reserve requirement with the available or unused portion of a surety bond.

AB 1437 (Patterson and Wiener) Care facilities: criminal record clearances.
Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS), until an automated system exists to track changes in facility associations, to permit a licensee who operated more than one community care facility of the same facility type to either transfer an individual's current criminal record clearance to one or more facilities of the same facility type operated by the licensee, or designate, within a single state licensing region, one facility as the central administrative facility to which individuals with a current criminal record clearance are associated. This bill would have also prohibited certain exemptions from criminal background clearance requirements from applying to any individual associated at a facility, and would have required DSS to hold criminal record clearances in its active files for a minimum of three years after an individual is no longer associated at a licensed facility for purposes of transferring criminal record clearances. This bill would have required a licensee, or an individual on behalf of a licensee, to be available to DSS to identify the current work location of all cleared and exempted individuals employed by the licensee. Finally, this bill would have created a process by which facility associations may be updated.

AB 1914 (Flora) As introduced January 23, 2018: Presence at community care facility: conviction of crimes.
As amended June 25, 2018: Underground installations: excavations.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 708, Statutes of 2018.

While originally referred to and heard by the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was substantially amended on June 25, 2018, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

AB 2033 (Choi) Continuing care contracts: repayable contracts.
Held in the Assembly Aging and Long Term Committee (not heard).

This bill would have changed the definition of a repayable contract for a continuing care facility as a contract that includes a promise to repay all or a portion of an entrance fee on a sequential basis from an entrance fee repayment pool funded by the resale of units at the facility. This bill would have also required a continuing care retirement community that enters into a repayable care contract to: establish a repayment account in which funds generated from the sale of units in the facility's pool can be deposited; assign the designated beneficiary, upon termination of the resident's contract, into a pool of designated beneficiaries to whom payments must be made in a sequential order; and provide certain notifications to the designated beneficiary related to his or her status as a designated beneficiary in the pool and his or her status as eligible for payment. This bill would have prohibited a repayable contract as defined by this bill from being considered a refundable contract for purposes of meeting the refund reserve requirements as described in current law, and would have also allowed a provider to repay all or a portion of an entrance fee before the resale of any unit within the facility. This bill would have also subjected a repayable contract to all legal requirements otherwise

applicable to repayable contracts, and would have applied only to continuing care contracts entered into or amended on or after January 1, 2019.

AB 2744 (Reyes and Rubio) Residential care facilities for the elderly: referral agencies.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have, as of July 1, 2019, required referral agencies providing referrals to residential care facilities for the elderly (RCFEs) to register with the Department of Social Services (DSS), and would have set forth a number of related requirements. These requirements would have included, among others: prohibiting a referral agency from providing a referral to a facility unless it is registered, to be renewed every two years, with DSS; requiring a referral agency to provide a client with a disclosure containing specified information prior to providing a referral; authorizing a client to, at any time, request in writing that a referral cease contact with him or her; requiring, if a referral agency has an Internet Web site, that agency to prominently display on the first page, before the client is asked to sign up for services or agree to terms, a number of pieces of information; requiring an employee of a referral agency who will be in direct contact with a potential resident to obtain either a criminal record clearance or a criminal record exemption prior to initial contact with a potential resident; requiring a referral agency to provide a disclosure to a client indicating the number of hours of annual training required of all employees who make referrals to clients, and requiring the disclosure to indicate if specified topics are covered by the training; requiring the agreement between a referral agency and a client to allow the client to cancel the agreement at any time, provided the client does not take possession, and assume financial responsibility for, a unit in a facility to which the client was referred; entitling a facility to a 100% refund of a referral fee if a referred client decides not to take possession and assume financial responsibility for a unit in a facility; prohibiting an employee, independent contractor, or other person acting on behalf of a government agency, health care facility, or other health care institution from offering, providing, or accepting any type of compensation or other benefit for referring patients, clients, or customers to a facility or referral agency; and requiring a referral agency to maintain liability insurance coverage of at least \$1 million per person per occurrence and \$2 million in total annual aggregate for negligent acts or omissions by the referral agency or any of its employees. This bill would have also established owners, operators, and employees of referral agencies as mandated reporters.

AB 3039 (Holden) Health care facilities: criminal background checks.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have made certain changes to the criminal background check process for community care facilities by deleting the requirement that the Department of Social Services (DSS) determine if an applicant has ever: been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation, committed violations of current law related to abuse and neglect, or been convicted of any non-exemptible crimes, and would have instead required DSS to determine if a person has, within the preceding five years, been convicted of a directly and adversely related crime, (defined by the bill as a felony or misdemeanor that is directly or adversely related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession being applied for, and requires determination of whether a crime is directly and adversely related to be based on the nature and gravity of the offense, the age of the offense, and the nature and duties of the profession being applied for), or a directly and adversely related violent felony (which is defined by the bill as having the same meaning as current law, which includes murder or voluntary manslaughter, mayhem, and rape, among other crimes). This bill would have also made significant changes to: the criminal background check process related to criminal history

information provided by the Department of Justice and by an applicant; the use of fingerprinting and a statement signed by an applicant regarding prior criminal convictions; and the application for licensure, special permit, or certificate of approval to operate a foster family home, certified family home, or to be a resource family. This bill would have also conformed certain abilities of DSS related to the limitation of certain individuals associated with community care facilities to the criminal records exemption process specified by the provisions of the bill. This bill would have deleted the existing criminal background check process as it applies to individuals who have contact with clients in residential care facilities for persons with chronic life threatening illnesses, residential care facilities for the elderly, and child care facilities, and would have instead required DSS to obtain state and federal summary criminal history information for those individuals, and would have subjected those individuals to the background check process as established by the provisions of the bill. This bill would have also made certain changes to the criminal records exemption process for the registration and application process for home care aides.

AB 3088 (Chu) Continuing care contracts: retirement communities.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have deleted the reference to entrance into Type A contracts as a condition under which certain Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs) must file an actuarial findings, report, and opinion with the Department of Social Services (DSS), and would have required all CCRCs to file an actuary's opinion with DSS regardless of contract type offered at least once every five years. This bill would have also required each provider who was not required to file an actuary's opinion prior to January 1, 2018, to file its actuary's opinion within 45 days after a provider's annual report is due. The bill would have also required a CCRC to post a copy of the actuary's opinion at the facility and on the provider's Internet Web site within 10 days of filing the opinion with DSS. This bill would have also required each CCRC to, at least once every five years, conduct a review of the accessible areas that a provider is obligated to repair, replace, restore, or maintain, to be used for purposes of considering and implementing adjustments to reserve account requirements. This bill would have also required the review to include certain components related to maintaining the CCRC facility. This bill would have also required each provider to submit, at least once every five years, a summary of the review and any planned adjustments to DSS, and would have also required the provider to post a copy of the summary and adjustment plan at the facility and on its Internet Web site within 10 days of filing the summary and adjustment plan with DSS. The provisions of this bill related to the filing of actuarial findings, reports, and opinions, would have been repealed as of December 31, 2029, and would have reverted to current law as of January 1, 2030.

AB 3098 (Friedman) Residential care facilities for the elderly: emergency and disaster plans.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 348, Statutes of 2018.

This bill includes among the required components for a residential care facility for the elderly's (RCFE) emergency plan the following: a plan for short-term power failure; a plan and available supplies to provide resources during an outage if the facility has plans to shelter in place and one or more utilities is unavailable; a contact information list for certain entities; and at least two appropriate shelter locations that can house facility residents during an evacuation, among other components. This bill also requires a facility to provide staff training upon hire and annually thereafter, to include staff responsibilities during an emergency or disaster. This bill also requires a facility to conduct a drill at least quarterly for each shift, requires a facility to review the emergency

and disaster plan annually and make updates as necessary, and have certain information available to staff during an emergency. This bill also requires a facility to have in place an evacuation chair at each stairwell on or before July 1, 2019, and a set of keys available to facility staff on each shift that provides access to certain locations and items within the facility. This bill also requires an applicant seeking licensure for a new facility to submit the emergency and disaster plan with the initial license application, and encourages a facility to have the plan reviewed by local emergency authorities.

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

AB 279 (Holden) Developmental disabilities: regional centers.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the cost model design used to establish rates for facilities serving people with developmental disabilities to consider changes in local minimum wage, and would have allowed regional centers to negotiate rates with providers if the adjustment is necessary to pay employees at least the local minimum wage and to adjust payroll costs to reflect the minimum wage increase. This bill would have provided the Department of Developmental Services and regional centers with the ability to negotiate certain rates if the adjustment is necessary to pay employees the local minimum wage and for the purpose of adjusting payroll costs associated with the minimum wage increase, and would have allowed community-based day programs and in-home respite services agency providers to seek rate adjustments for purposes of paying employees the local minimum wage.

AB 959 (Holden) Developmental services: regional centers.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 474, Statutes of 2017.

This bill includes authorized representatives in the list of individuals that current law requires all public or private agencies that receive state funds in order to provide services to individuals with disabilities to respect the choices of, and requires a regional center to provide information in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner to consumers, consumer's parents, legal guardians, conservators, or authorized representatives, when applicable, including providing alternative communication services. This bill also requires the Department of Developmental Services to establish and maintain a page on its Internet Web site that includes both a list of services purchased by regional centers or provided directly to consumers by regional centers, and a description of those services, and requires each regional center to include a link on its Internet Web site to that page.

AB 1170 (Cooley) Developmental disabilities: competitive integrated employment ombudsperson.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have created the "Office of the Competitive Integrated Employment Ombudsperson" within the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) in order to provide services to individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities and would have defined the "California Competitive Integrated Employment Blueprint" or "Blueprint" as the plan developed through the partnership with the California Department of Education, Department of Rehabilitation, Department of Developmental Services (DDS), and stakeholders, under the leadership of the California Health and Human Services Agency, to increase opportunities for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities to prepare for and participate in competitive integrated

employment. This bill would have also stipulated that all communications received by the Competitive Integrated Employment Ombudsperson during the course of his or her duties are confidential, and would have required the Competitive Integrated Employment Ombudsperson to submit an annual report to the Governor, the Director of DDS, and the Employment First Committee of the SCDD that details certain information regarding implementation of the Blueprint.

AB 1258 (Aguiar-Curry) Developmental services.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have afforded individuals with developmental disabilities certain rights related to dignity, privacy, prompt medical treatment, and religious freedom and practice, among others that are currently enumerated as Legislative intent. The bill would have also made it declaratory of existing law that the rights enumerated in current law apply to a person with developmental disabilities in a developmental center, community placement, or other housing placement.

AB 1380 (Santiago) Developmental services: regional center services.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to conduct a review of in-home respite provider rates, to include information regarding vendor cost statements, hourly wages paid to respite workers, and temporary hourly rates. This bill would have required DDS to report the results of the review to the Legislature, as well as a proposal of necessary Legislative changes regarding in-home hourly respite rates. This bill would have also made changes to the contracts between DDS and regional centers, and would have required those contracts to include the requirement that regional centers develop a process to review all vendor contracts every two years, the outcome of which would be documented in the regional center's files, and the requirement that a regional center take appropriate action in order to ensure vendors comply with contracts. This bill would have required regional centers to submit to DDS within three months of the end of the biennial period the findings of their reviews, and would have required DDS to submit a report to the Legislature, within three months of receiving the reviews, detailing the outcome of the reviews, and what steps are being taken to ensure vendor contract compliance. This bill would have also required an employer, prior to employing an in-home respite worker, to submit the person's fingerprints to the Department of Justice (DOJ) in order to obtain criminal record information, and would have enumerated a number of requirements that must be complied with in order to obtain the criminal record information of in-home respite workers from DOJ.

AB 1607 (Frazier) Developmental services: integrated competitive employment.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have allowed certain consumers with integrated employment as a goal of their individual program plan (IPP) to request tailored day services in order to meet integrated employment goals, and would have allowed an IPP to authorize up to 75 hours of services per calendar quarter for individuals currently receiving work activity program services, and up to five hours a month of tailored day services for individuals who are receiving group supported employment services. This bill would have also required the inclusion of community-based vocational development services among habilitation services in order to increase opportunities for individuals to gain meaningful integrated competitive employment opportunities. This bill would have deleted the requirement that the Department of Developmental Services establish a four-year

pilot project to determine whether community based vocational development services increase integrated competitive employment outcomes and would have made certain components of that pilot applicable statewide.

AB 1610 (Ridley-Thomas) Developmental services: regional centers.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have placed additional requirements on regional centers in order to increase access for consumers and their families to certain information; these requirements included directing regional centers to provide consumers and/or their representatives and family members information at the outset of or during specified meetings on, among other things: the appeal procedure and complaint process, the denial documentation regarding medical and dental coverage that consumers and families are required to supply, and the process for obtaining transportation services for a minor child. This bill would have also repealed certain provisions of law limiting or prohibiting, among other things, regional center purchase of certain services, including respite services. This bill would have also authorized regional centers to purchase respite and other family support services as nonrequired services and would have stipulated that the granting or denial of durable medical equipment, respite services, or other family support services as nonrequired services can be subject to appeal. This bill would have eased requirements placed on parents related to applied behavioral analysis or intensive behavioral intervention services received by their children. This bill would have also required regional centers to pay for medical and dental services during certain periods as necessary to implement a consumer's individual program plan. This bill would have required the Department of Developmental Services to convene a task force to develop a purchase of services budget and allocation methodology.

AB 1990 (Mathis) California Integrated Community Living Program.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have established the "California Integrated Community Living Program" within the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) for the purpose of providing deferred payment loans to finance the capital costs of permanent supportive housing for regional center clients in order to maximize affordable integrated community living opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This bill would have created the "Integrated Community Living Program Fund" (Fund) in the State Treasury and required moneys in the Fund to be continuously appropriated to DDS to be used for the purposes described by provisions of this bill, and would have required the following to be deposited into the Fund: all moneys received by DDS through the sale, lease, or other revenue-generating agreement for any state developmental center property not to include existing revenues associated with the current Harbor Village or Shannon's Mountain projects; all other moneys appropriated by the Legislature for purposes of the provisions of this bill; and federal or state grants, or private donations or grants. This bill would have required DDS to convene an advisory committee to advise and assist in establishing and reviewing funding priorities for the California Integrated Community Living Program. This bill would have also required the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop and administer a competitive application process to award funding for loans and required a project to integrate regional center clients with the general public in order to be eligible for funding.

AB 2171 (Frazier) Individuals with disabilities: special education and related services.
Held on the Senate Inactive File.

This bill would have required an individual education plan (IEP) to specify how a local education agency (LEA) will support a pupil in obtaining or retaining competitive integrated employment and what accommodations an LEA will provide to the pupil in cooperation with other agencies and state departments. This bill would have also required the State Board of Education to adopt the Employment First Policy with respect to transition-age pupils who qualify, or are expected to qualify for services through the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) or the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) or both, and would have required the board to apply the Employment First Policy to all transition-related services and supports that pupils who qualify or are expected to qualify are entitled. This bill would have also required the Superintendent of Public Instruction, director of DDS, and director of DOR to regularly consult with pupils and with developmental disabilities, parents of individuals with developmental disabilities, organizations representing individuals with developmental disabilities, and the Employment First Committee, on the implementation of the agreement entered into by DDS, DOR, and the California Department of Education to ensure the seamless and coordinated delivery of services and supports to individuals with disabilities. This bill would have also required the Superintendent, director of DDS, and director of DOR to submit to the Legislature a report on the implementation of the agreement and on the progress made to facilitate data collection and sharing across departments in order to aid individuals with developmental disabilities achieve competitive integrated employment. This bill would have also required a regional center to specify in an individual program plan (IPP) for a transition age youth or working age adult how DDS will support the individual in obtaining or retaining competitive integrated employment, including the accommodations that the department will provide to the individual. This bill would have also required DOR to adopt the Employment First Policy and apply it to all transition- or employment-related services and supports to which an individual with disabilities is entitled to, or may be entitled to, from the department. This bill would have also required DOR to specify in an individualized plan for employment how the department will support the individual in obtaining or retaining competitive integrated employment, including the accommodations that the department will provide to the individual.

AB 2244 (Acosta) Developmental services: regional centers: provider rates.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have deemed a health and safety waiver (HSW) request approved by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) if the department does not act on the request within 30 calendar days of receiving the request, unless it is determined by the director that additional time is necessary, and would have allowed DDS an additional 30 days to act on the request if the director determines that additional time is necessary. This bill would have also defined “imminent and serious threat to the health and safety of the individual consumer” as including consumers placed in, or at risk of placement in, the acute crisis center at Fairview or Sonoma Developmental Centers, an out-of-state placement, an institution for mental disease, or a facility using secure perimeters, or consumers who would otherwise be at risk of placement in a more restrictive or less integrated setting. This bill would have also imposed various timelines on DDS to: report granted or denied HSWs to regional centers, request additional information from regional centers regarding HSW requests, and send written acknowledgements to regional centers regarding written or oral requests received from regional centers. This bill would have also allowed a consumer or regional center to request a meeting with a DDS representative and would have required the department to grant the request

within a certain timeframe. This bill would have also required DDS to provide the Legislature, on an annual basis, an accounting of the age of each request and to post the information on the department's Internet Web site. This bill would have also required DDS to adopt regulations to establish a process to review HSW requests from regional centers to resolve systemic issues with service provider rates, including minimum wage ordinances, and would have required the review process to include a requirement that DDS render a decision on the requested review no later than 60 calendar days after receipt of the review request, unless the director determines that additional time is needed.

AB 2331 (Weber) Medi-Cal: redetermination: developmental disability.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill, in order to facilitate uninterrupted redetermination of Medi-Cal eligibility for individuals with developmental disabilities, would have permitted disclosure of information and records obtained while providing intake, assessment, and services to individuals with developmental disabilities to authorized personnel to enable the county or the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to perform determinations or redeterminations of Medi-Cal eligibility. This bill would have also required an individual or certain representatives of an individual to disclose whether the individual is enrolled in Medi-Cal and to provide a copy of any health benefit card under which the consumer is eligible to receive Medi-Cal benefits. This bill would have required information related to a consumer's eligibility for Medi-Cal to be released by the regional center or DDS to the county or DHCS for purposes of enabling the county to perform determinations or redeterminations of Medi-Cal eligibility. This bill would have required, to the extent that federal financial participation is available and any necessary federal approvals have been obtained, the following, among other things: the county, in cases of annual redetermination of Medi-Cal eligibility for a beneficiary who has a developmental disability and who is determined to be eligible for regional center services, to utilize information that the county acquired during the last 36 months that is relevant to the beneficiary's Medi-Cal eligibility prior to contacting the beneficiary; the county to evaluate information received in the last 36 months and consider the information as relevant for the purpose of annual eligibility redetermination; DDS to disseminate, on a regular basis determined by DHCS, to the counties and to DHCS a list identifying consumers receiving services at regional centers; and the consumer to maintain Medi-Cal eligibility during the redetermination process.

AB 2522 (Chu) Developmental services.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have deleted "significant" from the definition of developmentally delayed infants and toddlers, and would have deleted the definition of "significant difference" for purposes of determining whether an infant or toddler has a developmental delay. This bill would have also deleted from statute the definition of "substantial disability" and would have changed the definition of "developmental disability" by deleting the requirement that a disability constitute a substantial disability for an individual. This bill would have also restored regional center authority to purchase nonrequired services, experimental treatments, therapeutic services, or devices that have not been clinically determined to be effective or safe, by repealing the prohibition on purchasing these services. This bill would have also restored regional center authority to purchase camping services, social recreation activities, educational services for children three to 17 years of age, and nonmedical therapies by repealing the prohibition on purchasing these services. This bill would have also eliminated the Family Cost Participation Program.

AB 2623 (Holden) Developmental disabilities: regional centers.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the cost model design used to establish rates for facilities serving people with developmental disabilities to consider changes in local minimum wage, and would have allowed regional centers to negotiate rates with providers if the adjustment is necessary to pay employees at least the local minimum wage and to adjust payroll costs to reflect the minimum wage increase. This bill would have provided the Department of Developmental Services and regional centers with the ability to negotiate certain rates if the adjustment is necessary to pay employees the local minimum wage and for the purpose of adjusting payroll costs associated with the minimum wage increase, and would have allowed community-based day programs and in-home respite services agency providers to seek rate adjustments for purposes of paying employees the local minimum wage.

AB 3074 (Frazier) Developmental services: integrated competitive employment.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have allowed certain consumers with integrated employment as a goal of their individual program plan (IPP) to request tailored day services in order to meet integrated employment goals, and would have allowed an IPP to authorize up to 75 hours of services per calendar quarter for individuals currently receiving work activity program services, and up to five hours a month of tailored day services for individuals who are receiving group supported employment services. This bill would have also required the inclusion of community-based vocational development services among habilitation services in order to increase opportunities for individuals to gain meaningful integrated competitive employment opportunities. This bill would have deleted the requirement that the Department of Developmental Services establish a four-year pilot project to determine whether community based vocational development services increase integrated competitive employment outcomes and would have made certain components of that pilot applicable statewide.

ACR 77 (Lackey and Mathis) Developmental centers.
Held in the Senate Rules Committee.

This resolution would have declared Legislative intent that individuals with developmental disabilities should continue to be supported using the proceeds from the sale, lease, or repurposing of developmental center properties, any cost difference between provision of services in a developmental center versus through a regional center, and the revenues generated from reuse or continued innovative use of developmental center properties. This resolution would have also declared Legislative intent to establish a working group to ascertain how the sale, lease, or repurposing of developmental center properties can be utilized for the maximum benefit of individuals with developmental disabilities without violating the California Constitution's requirements regarding the disposition of surplus properties. This resolution would have provided that the Legislature encourages the creation of a self-sustaining mechanism to support individuals with developmental disabilities, and would have declared Legislative intent that all savings from the developmental centers should be used for the support of individuals with developmental disabilities.

SB 134 (Hernandez and Salas) Regional center contracts.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 975, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires a contract between the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and a regional center operator renewed or entered into on and after January 1, 2019, to include procedures for employee retention. This bill requires DDS to notify a contractor that it has awarded or intends to award the contract to a different entity and requires the predecessor contractor to, at least 15 days prior to the effective date of the change of operator, provide a list containing specified information regarding all covered employees to the successor contractor. This bill also requires a contract entered into or renewed pursuant to the provisions of this bill to contain a number of elements, including, among other things: a requirement that the successor contractor agree to retain all covered employees for at least 90 days subsequent to a change of operator, with certain exceptions; a requirement that the successor contractor not reduce total compensation of or terminate without cause a covered employee during the transition period; a requirement that the predecessor contractor, at least 15 days prior to the effective date of a change of operator, ensure that public notice containing information regarding the change of operator be posted at each principal place of employment and be provided to any labor organization representing covered employees; and a requirement that the successor contractor retain certain information regarding covered employees. This bill also permits a covered employee to bring an action against a successor contractor in any superior court of the state with jurisdiction over the successor contractor if he or she: is not offered employment; has been discharged in violation of provisions of this bill; or has been paid less than the covered employee's total compensation during the transition period. This bill authorizes the court, upon finding a violation of provisions of this bill, to award back pay, issue an injunction or appropriate order to cease continued violation of those provisions, and provide any other relief deemed appropriate. This bill also requires each regional center to include on its Internet Web site, alongside other information already required to be included by current law, the salaries, wages, and employee benefits for all managerial positions for which the primary purpose is the administrative management of the regional center.

SB 175 (McGuire and Jeff Stone) Developmental services: Canyon Springs Community Facility.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 884, Statutes of 2018.

This bill includes Canyon Springs Community Facility among the placement options for individuals who are found by the court to have a developmental disability and to be a danger to themselves or to others, and who the court has ordered to be committed to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) for treatment, if certain criteria are met. This bill also allows the court to order the commitment of an individual to a separate and distinct unit of Canyon Springs Community Facility if certain criteria are met, and subjects the admission of individuals to the Canyon Springs Community Facility to the post-admission procedures and timelines defined in current law. This bill also authorizes no more than ten beds at Canyon Springs Community Facility to be designated for the purpose of placing individuals committed pursuant to the provisions of the bill, and exempts a person committed by a court on or before June 30, 2021, to the Canyon Springs Community Facility due to an acute crisis from the prohibition placed on additional admissions to a developmental center by DDS.

SB 433 (Mendoza) As introduced February 15, 2017: Developmental services: data exchange. As amended September 8, 2017: Gas corporations: zero-carbon gas. Held in the Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee.

While originally referred to and heard by both the Assembly Human Services and Privacy and Consumer Protection Committees, this bill was amended substantially on September 8, 2017, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Human Services Committee.

SB 1107 (Leyva) Public social services: family home agencies. Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 112, Statutes of 2018.

This bill includes a private for-profit agency in the definition of "family home agency" (FHA), thereby authorizing private for-profit agencies to be selected as FHAs for purposes of the developmental services system.

SB 1274 (McGuire) Developmental services: data exchange. Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 466, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to provide the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), to the extent permitted by federal law and regulations, with CalWORKs, CalFresh, and Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) eligibility and enrollment data for consumers serviced by DDS in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the Employment First Policy by monitoring and evaluating employment outcomes. This bill also includes authorized personnel within DSS among the entities to whom certain confidential information and records about individuals with developmental disabilities may be disclosed by DDS in order to facilitate DSS's sharing of information with DDS. This bill also requires DSS to maintain the confidentiality of information received from DDS.

SCR 107 (Beall) Developmental services: housing. Chaptered by Secretary of State. – Res. Chapter 132, Statutes of 2018.

This resolution declares Legislative intent to support the housing needs of individuals with developmental disabilities by exploring models, such as the Lanterman Housing Alliance's California Legacy Homes Program, that facilitate the private donation of homes in perpetuity.

HOMELESSNESS

AB 210 (Santiago) Homeless multidisciplinary personnel team. Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 544, Statutes of 2017.

This bill allows a county to establish a homeless adult and family multidisciplinary team (MDT) in order to facilitate identification, assessment, and linkage of homeless individuals to necessary services, and identifies certain individuals who may be included in an MDT, including police officers, legal counsel, and medical personnel, among others. This bill allows MDT members to share information with one another if the information is relevant to the identification, reduction, or elimination of homelessness, or the provision of services. This bill allows MDT members to designate qualified individuals to be a member of the team for a particular case, who may receive and disclose relevant information and records, and prohibits the disclosure of information to anyone

other than members of the MDT. This bill also subjects all members of the MDT to certain privacy and confidentiality obligations, requires information or records obtained be maintained in a way that ensures privacy and confidentiality rights, requires representatives of domestic violence victim services organizations to obtain the informed consent of an individual prior to disclosing confidential information to another member of an MDT, and applies all civil and criminal penalties to the inappropriate disclosure of information by MDT members. This bill also requires a participating county to develop protocols dictating MDT processes and sharing of information, which includes the items of information or data elements to be shared, the participating agencies, and a description of how the information shared will be used by the MDT, among other elements, and requires those protocols be distributed to participating agencies, be posted on the county's Internet Web site, and be provided to DSS.

AB 824 (Lackey and Gipson) Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth Grant Program.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have established the "Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth Grant Program" to be housed in and administered by the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to award grants to qualified nonprofit entities for the provision of services to homeless youth between the ages of 18 and 24 for up to 36 months. This bill would have required grants to be awarded to qualified nonprofit entities that demonstrate the ability to provide transitional living services and offer other specified services and programs. This bill would have also required OES to, in consultation with current and former homeless youth and others, establish minimum standards and procedures to be used in selecting grantees and establishing grant amounts. This bill would have required priority be given to applicant entities who had demonstrated experience working with runaway or homeless youth and were in a city or county that lacks existing transitional housing programs for homeless youth. This bill would have also required each grant recipient to ensure that program participants are engaged in at least one activity that will lead to self-sufficiency, except in instances where a participant is found to have good cause for not engaging in that activity. This bill would have also required each grant recipient to screen participants for eligibility for certain programs and services and to work with youth, in specified circumstances, to engage in family reunification efforts. This bill would have required each grant recipient to submit a report to OES containing designated information regarding services provided during the previous year and would have required OES to submit an annual report to the Legislature aggregating the information received from grantees. This bill would have appropriated \$15 million from the General Fund to OES for the purpose of awarding Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth grants.

AB 2602 (McCarty) Homeless youth emergency service projects.
Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have established a homeless youth emergency service project in Sacramento County by requiring, alongside the homeless youth emergency service projects already established per current law in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, and Santa Clara counties, a homeless youth emergency services project to be established in Sacramento County, to be operated by an agency in accordance with a grant award agreement with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. This bill would have also prohibited the proposed Sacramento County grant from reducing funding provided for existing projects in any of the three other participating counties or in the City or County of San Francisco.

AB 2920 (Thurmond) As introduced February 16, 2018: Homeless youth: emergency service pilot programs.

As amended April 9, 2018: Transactions and use taxes: City of Berkeley.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 771, Statutes of 2018.

While originally referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was substantially amended on April 9, 2018, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

SB 918 (Wiener and Rubio) Homeless Youth Act of 2018.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 841, Statutes of 2018.

This bill establishes the “Homeless Youth Act of 2018” and includes among the existing goals of the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (Council) the following: setting goals to prevent homelessness among California’s youth, improving the safety, health, and welfare of young people experiencing homelessness in the state, increasing system integration and coordinating efforts to prevent homelessness among youth who are currently or formerly involved in the child welfare services or the juvenile justice systems, leading efforts to coordinate a spectrum of funding, policy, and practice efforts related to young people experiencing homelessness, and identifying best practices to ensure that homeless minors who have experienced maltreatment and are eligible to be dependent children are re-referred to, or have the ability to self-refer to, the child welfare system. This bill also tasks the Council with setting and measuring progress towards goals to prevent and end homelessness among youth in California by setting specific, measurable goals, defining outcome measures, and gathering data related to those goals. This bill also instructs the Council to coordinate with stakeholders to inform policy, practices, and programs, and provide technical assistance and program development support in order to increase capacity among new and existing service providers, and provide support to service providers in making evidence-informed and data-driven decisions.

SB 1012 (Delgado) Homeless multidisciplinary personnel team.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 786, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires a county to allow a city existing within that county to participate in a homeless adult and family multidisciplinary personnel team if the city requests to participate, unless the county determines that the city’s participation would hinder compliance with requirements and obligations described in current law, or would otherwise conflict with the county’s goals and objectives.

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) / HOME CARE SERVICES

AB 237 (Gonzalez Fletcher and Quirk-Silva) As introduced January 30, 2017: In-home supportive services.

As amended June 4, 2018: Pilot Program for Increased Access to Responsible Small Dollar Loans.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 1016, Statutes of 2018.

While originally referred to and heard by the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was amended substantially on June 4, 2018, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

AB 432 (Thurmond) Personal care services.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have established county public authorities and nonprofit consortia as the employers of record for providers of waiver personal care services (WPCS) and adopted related changes in order to establish parity between WPCS and in-home supportive services providers for purposes of labor relations. This bill would have also exempted information regarding individuals paid by the state to provide WPCS from public disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, with the exception of certain contact information that must be made available upon request to an exclusive bargaining agent and to any labor organization seeking representation rights, and would have clarified that, in addition to payment as currently stipulated in law, WPCS providers must also receive benefits on a schedule and in a manner by which providers of personal care services receive payment. This bill would have also, to the extent permitted by federal law, required the wages and benefits of WPCS providers to be equal to the rates in each county for the individual provider mode of services in the IHSS program.

AB 675 (Ridley-Thomas) In-home supportive services.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have prohibited components of the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) related to in-home supportive services (IHSS) from being made inoperative due to a determination made by the Director of Finance and pursuant to the CCI “poison pill” in state law, and would have appropriated \$650 million from the General Fund to the Department of Health Care Services for the purposes of continuing CCI-related IHSS components.

AB 1021 (Baker) In-home supportive services: application.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 146, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires a county human services agency to accept applications for in-home supportive services through various means, including: telephone, facsimile, or in-person, or, if a county is capable of accepting online applications or applications via email, by email or through other electronic means.

AB 1513 (Kalra) Registered home care aides: disclosure of contact information.

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have required, as of September 1, 2018, an electronic copy of a registered home care aide’s name, telephone number, and cellular telephone number, if available, on file with the Department of Social Services (DSS) to be made available, upon request, to a labor organization in which a provider of in-home supportive services or a registered home care aide, already participates and which exists for the purpose of dealing with employers of home care aides concerning a number of employment-related factors. This bill would have prohibited the labor organization requesting this list from using the information for any purpose other than employee organizing, representation, and assistance activities and would have prevented disclosure of the information to any other party. This bill would have also required DSS to establish a simple opt-out procedure whereby a registered home care aide could request that his or her contact information on file with DSS not be disclosed and would have required DSS to, by July 1, 2018, provide written notification of disclosure and opt-out processes to registered home care aides and applicants.

AB 1909 (Nazarian) In-home supportive services: written content translation.
Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services to offer written content for in-home supportive services (IHSS) providers (including, but not be limited to, any of the following: informational notices, notices of action, timesheets, or forms intended for IHSS providers that are required by state law, regulations, or action) in state-level threshold languages.

AB 2329 (Obernolte) As introduced February 13, 2018: In-home supportive services. As amended April 9, 2018: Special districts: board of directors: compensation.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 170, Statutes of 2018.

While originally referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was amended substantially on April 9, 2018, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

AB 2455 (Kalra) Home care aide registry: disclosure of personal disclosure of personal contact information.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 917, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to, for any new home care aide registration or renewal of registration occurring on or after July 1, 2019, provide an electronic copy of a registered home care aide's name and certain contact information upon request to specified labor organizations. This bill prohibits the labor organization requesting the list from using the information for any purpose other than employee organizing, representation, and assistance activities and also prohibits the labor organization from disclosing the information to any other party. This bill requires DSS to establish a simple opt-out procedure whereby a registered home care aide or home care aide applicant can request that his or her contact information on file with DSS not be disclosed, and also requires DSS to, at the time of any registration or renewal of registration occurring on or after July 1, 2019, provide the registering or registered home care aide with both of the following: a written notice that his or her information may be shared with a labor organization and written instructions on how to utilize the opt-out procedure.

AB 2872 (Carrillo) In-home supportive services: peer-to-peer training.
Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to, by July 1, 2019, and in consultation with employee representative organizations, adopt a process for compensating in-home supportive services (IHSS) providers for conducting voluntary peer-to-peer training, and would have required this training to cover subjects such as: how to enroll as a new provider, how to navigate the program, how to avoid making errors on timesheets, and how to navigate policy changes to the program. This bill would have required DSS to designate the hours, per county, to compensate IHSS providers for educating other IHSS providers based on the presumption that every provider in the county may receive a maximum of two hours of peer-to-peer training in a group with no more than 10 total providers. This bill would have also required a provider conducting peer-to-peer training to be compensated at the county's prevailing wage rate for IHSS providers, and stipulated that this requirement does not require compensation of attendees of the peer-to-peer training. This bill would have required the hours worked by an IHSS provider educating other IHSS providers to be reimbursed by DSS to the employee representative organization, and would have stipulated that the

hours of education completed by an IHSS provider were not to be included in a recipient's hours of service or to count toward the provider's workweek limits. This bill would have also required DSS conduct certain administrative activities related to verification and reimbursement of training hours.

AB 3082 (Gonzalez Fletcher) In-home supportive services.

Chaptered by Secretary of State – Chapter 948, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to, in consultation with interested stakeholders, develop or otherwise identify: 1) standard educational material about sexual harassment and the prevention of sexual harassment to be made available to providers and recipients of in-home supportive services (IHSS); and, 2) a proposed method for uniform data collection to identify the prevalence of sexual harassment of providers of IHSS. This bill also requires DSS to provide a copy of the educational material and a description of the proposed method for uniform data collection to the relevant budget and policy committees of the Legislature by September 30, 2019.

AB 3114 (Thurmond) Personal care services.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have established county public authorities and nonprofit consortia as the employers of record for providers of waiver personal care services (WPCS) and adopted related changes in order to establish parity between WPCS and in-home supportive services providers for purposes of labor relations. This bill would have also exempted information regarding individuals paid by the state to provide WPCS from public disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, with the exception of certain contact information that must be made available upon request to an exclusive bargaining agent and to any labor organization seeking representation rights, and would have clarified that, in addition to payment as currently stipulated in law, WPCS providers must also receive benefits on a schedule and in a manner by which providers of personal care services receive payment. This bill would have also, to the extent permitted by federal law, required the wages and benefits of WPCS providers to be equal to the rates in each county for the individual provider mode of services in the IHSS program.

SB 1040 (Dodd) In-home supportive services: natural disaster.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 789, Statutes of 2018.

This bill establishes the “In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Consumer Safety Act”, which, among other things: clarifies that IHSS recipients are among the persons of low and moderate income eligible per current law for housing funded through the Predevelopment Loan Program, if such funds are made available for the purpose of providing disaster relief in communities subject to a natural disaster; clarifies that a situation arising out of a natural disaster constitutes an extraordinary circumstance for which, pursuant to current law, a county welfare department may temporarily adjust the authorized weekly hours of an IHSS recipient at the request of the recipient and within the limit of the assessed monthly need for hours of IHSS; directs counties to include protocols regarding supportive services for IHSS recipients in their emergency plans; and requires the replacement of IHSS providers’ paychecks that are lost or damaged due to certain natural disasters.

PUBLIC SERVICES/OTHER HUMAN SERVICES

AB 3 (Bonta) As introduced December 5, 2016: Public defenders: legal counsel: immigration consequences: grants.

As amended September 14, 2017: Crimes: repeat offenders and recidivism reduction.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

While originally referred to and heard by both the Assembly Public Safety and Human Services Committees, this bill was amended substantially on September 14, 2017, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Human Services Committee.

AB 85 (Rodriguez) General assistance: employable veterans.
Held In the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

This bill would have established the “General Assistance ‘Thank You for Your Service’ Act of 2017” and would have authorized counties to exclude an eligible employable veteran from the prohibition on receipt of general assistance/general relief (GA/GR) for more than three months in any 12-month period. This bill would have also allowed a county board of supervisors to enact an ordinance stipulating that eligible employable veterans are not exempt from the three-month-per-year limit on GA/GR.

AB 223 (Eggman and Bonta) Commercial sexual exploitation of youth: services.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the Board of State and Community Corrections to establish pilot projects in Alameda, Sacramento, and San Joaquin Counties, if the counties agreed to participate, and would have allowed each county to make a determination as to whether the county probation department, child welfare agency, or both are responsible for creating a program to be funded by the pilot project. This bill would have required a program funded by the pilot project to serve youth within the county in order to address the need for services to commercially sexually exploited youth. This bill would have required the programs to provide certain services, such as trauma-informed counseling services and peer mentoring, and would have made the funding contingent upon an appropriation in the annual Budget Act. This bill would have also required each participating county to conduct an evaluation of the program’s impact and effectiveness, and would have required the county to submit the evaluation to the Board of State and Community Corrections and the Legislature no later than January 1, 2024. This bill also included a sunset date of the bill’s provisions as of January 1, 2025.

AB 322 (Mullin) Public social services for deaf persons.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services to provide deaf access program services to deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals who reside in linguistically isolated households in their primary language. This bill would have defined “adult” as an individual who is 14 years of age or older, and would have defined “linguistically isolated household” as a household in which all adults speak a language other than English and none speaks English very well.

AB 763 (Salas) Independent Living Centers: funding.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required each Independent Living Center to receive, to the extent funds are appropriated by the Legislature, at least \$235,000 in base grant funds allocated by the Department of Rehabilitation.

AB 796 (Kalra and Thurmond) Public social services: SSI/SSP.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have reinstated the annual cost-of-living adjustment to the State Supplementary Program for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (SSP), and required the maximum aid payment for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/SSP be indexed to specified percentages of the federal poverty level, as follows: as of January 1, 2018, any maximum aid payment for SSI/SSP that is less than 96% of the 2017 federal poverty level must be increased to an amount equal to 96% of the 2017 federal poverty level; as of January 1, 2019, any maximum aid payment for SSI/SSP that is less than 100% of the 2018 federal poverty level must be increased to an amount equal to 100% of the 2018 federal poverty level. This bill would have clarified that its provisions that index the maximum aid payment for SSI/SSP to the federal poverty level were not intended to result in the reduction of any payment that exceeds those index thresholds.

AB 1227 (Bonta and Low) Human Trafficking Prevention Education and Training Act.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 558, Statutes of 2017.

This bill establishes the “Human Trafficking Prevention Education and Training Act” and includes sexual abuse and human trafficking among the topics of instruction that must be provided to all students. This bill makes changes to school district provision of sexual abuse and sex trafficking prevention education, including broadening training to include human trafficking, the ability of parents or guardians the right to excuse his or her child from all or part of human trafficking prevention education, and the inclusion of child welfare, county probation, mental health, and public health departments as entities with whom a school district should collaborate with on intervention programs for pupils. This bill makes changes to the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Program, including the inclusion of educational entities among the groups with whom a county must collaborate when submitting a plan to the Department of Social Services (DSS) detailing how a county intends to use certain funds, inclusion of local education agencies among the entities included in a multidisciplinary team serving a child who is a victim of human trafficking, and the requirement that the county office of education and the county sheriff’s department be included in the team tasked with creating the interagency response protocol, among others. This bill also requires DSS to provide certain information related to CSEC data no later than June 1, 2018.

AB 1485 (Rubio) California Health and Human Services Agency.

Held in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard).

This bill would have required the California Health and Human Services Agency to develop a set of criteria in coordination with stakeholders to be recommended in a report to the Legislature regarding the screening of applicants for, and recipients of, any health care or social service program under the purview of the agency, and would have prohibited tools and procedures used for identity verification and eligibility determination and redetermination from including the collection of information that

may jeopardize or infringe upon the privacy of an individual or family. The provisions of this bill would have sunset on January 1, 2022.

AB 1520 (Burke and Rubio) Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 415, Statutes of 2017.

This bill establishes the Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force (Task Force), in order to recommend strategies for addressing deep child poverty and reducing child poverty in the state, and requires the Task Force to be established by the Department of Social Services (DSS) and to consist of stakeholders, with representatives from a range of specified entities, that focus on family and child well-being and the reduction of child poverty and alleviation of family crises. This bill also requires DSS to assist the Task Force in carrying out its duties, and requires the Task Force to submit a report to the executive branch administration and the Legislature by November 1, 2018, that includes specified data, analyses, benchmarks, and recommendations. The provisions of this bill sunset on January 1, 2020.

AB 1862 (Santiago, Chiu, and McCarty) As introduced January 11, 2018: Immigration services: grants.
As amended August 7, 2018: Community colleges: waiver of student fees.
Held in the Senate Rules Committee.

While originally referred to and heard by both the Assembly Judiciary and Human Services Committees, this bill was amended substantially on August 7, 2018, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Human Services Committee.

AB 1952 (Mayes et al.) Social services: access to food.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have established the “Envision a Hunger-Free California Act of 2018”, which would have required the Department of Social Services, the Department of Public Health, Department of Education, and the Department of Food and Agriculture to develop a plan to end hunger, and would have required the plan be distributed to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2020. This bill would have required the plan to: identify food deserts, identify barriers to bringing retailers to certain locations, make recommendations for improving food access, and explore methods to use new and existing resources to develop a food hub infrastructure, among other components. This bill would have also required the plan to request that the Regents of the University of California (UC), and direct the Trustees of the California State University (CSU) and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges (CCC), to develop a system that would allow electronic benefits transfer cards to be used on campuses. This bill would have also required the UC, CSU, and CCC to prepare and present a progress report to the Assembly Select Committee on Campus Climate and would have repealed the reporting requirements on January 1, 2023.

AB 1957 (Berman) Social Services: communications: computer-generated text messages.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 384, Statutes of 2018.

This bill allows a county to communicate with an applicant for or recipient of CalWORKs, CalFresh, or Cash Assistance Program for Aged, Blind, and Disabled Legal Immigrants through computer generated text messages, and requires all notices of action (NOAs) and communications sent via text

message to comply with federal law. This bill also prohibits the inclusion of certain case identifying information, as defined by the Department of Social Services, and specifies that NOAs sent via text message may only be sent via a link to a secure online portal that requires an applicant to securely log in. This bill also specifies that all other communications sent via computer-generated text message are not required to be sent using a link to a secure online portal, and allows only the first or last name, but not both, of an applicant to appear in the text message. This bill also requires all technology used as a result of the implementation of the bill to be in compliance with state information technology policy and related federal law.

AB 2397 (Obernolte) Health and human services: information sharing: administrative actions.
Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have changed from permissive to requisite the sharing of information by the California Department of Aging, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Health Care Services, the Department of Social Services (DSS), and the Emergency Medical Services Authority regarding individuals who have been the subject of any administrative action resulting in certain outcomes and would have changed from permissive to requisite the sharing of information by DSS and county child welfare agencies regarding individuals who have been the subject of any administrative action resulting in certain outcomes.

AB 2702 (McCarty) Trustline registry.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to create a Web-based TrustLine application process and to make available to consumers on its Internet Web site an applicant's or provider's TrustLine status, along with other information. Specifically, this bill would have required DSS to create and make operative a Web-based application process for submitting completed TrustLine applications to DSS that also allowed for: submission of a criminal record statement; payment of required TrustLine application fees; and submission of documents and a signed declaration required by current law for the transfer of a criminal record clearance. This bill would have required DSS to make the Web-based application process available to county welfare departments, local child care resource and referral agencies, alternative payment programs, and a number of other specified entities, along with any other entity authorized by DSS. This bill would have also required DSS to include on its Internet Web site information from the TrustLine registry enabling consumers to search for and obtain the status of TrustLine applicants and registered TrustLine child care providers, but would have prohibited DSS from providing any additional, individually identifiable information about TrustLine applicants and registered TrustLine child care providers on the Internet Web site other than the information specified by provisions of this bill. This bill would have required DSS to contract with a single live scan fingerprinting service provider certified by the Department of Justice (DOJ) to provide secure, electronic fingerprint scanning services throughout California and would have permitted any individual to use these services and would have required the selected provider to submit fingerprints to DOJ by electronic transmission.

AB 2821 (Maves) Integrated and comprehensive health and human services system.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 325, Statutes of 2018.

This bill authorizes any county to, upon approval of its county board of supervisors and the California Health and Human Services Agency, operate an integrated and comprehensive health and

human services system, and specifies the purview and requirements of this system. Specifically, this bill authorizes a county integrated and comprehensive county health and human services system to, among other things, include, but not be limited to, a range of specified health and human services and programs, to maintain and evaluate a system of administration that integrates and coordinates the management and support of client services, and to maintain a system of reporting and accountability that provides for the combined provision of services without the loss of state or federal funds provided under current law. This bill requires a county to comply with all applicable state and federal privacy laws governing medical and social service information. This bill also requires programs or services to be included in a county's integrated and comprehensive health and human services system only to the extent that federal funding to either the state or the county will not be reduced as a result of the inclusion of the services in the project. This bill also requires a county to utilize any and all state general funds and county funds that it is legally allocated or entitled to receive and to maximize federal matching funds, as specified, and further, prohibits integration from resulting in increased expenditures from the General Fund. This bill requires participating or cooperating state departments to have the authority to waive certain regulations, but prohibits these departments from waiving regulations related to privacy and confidentiality of records, civil service merit systems, or collective bargaining, or from waiving regulations in any case in which doing so would result in a diminished amount or level of services or benefits to eligible recipients as compared to the benefits and services that would have been provided to recipients absent the waiver.

AB 2933 (Medina) Public social services: county liaison for higher education.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would have required a county human services agency, or any other county agency responsible for social, health, or behavioral health services programs, to designate an agency liaison for higher education, and would have required the liaison to: serve as the single point of contact in the agency for academic counselors and other relevant professional staff at community colleges located within the county and provide resource and referral information regarding relevant programs under the agency's jurisdiction to students who have a need that may be met by those services. This bill would have also encouraged a county agency to consult with community colleges located within the county to best determine how a liaison can assist counselors and other staff members in meeting student needs. This bill would have required any personal information disclosed or shared as a result of the provisions of this bill be made in compliance with applicable state and federal confidentiality laws.

AB 3007 (E. Garcia) Children of incarcerated parents: support and services.

Held on the Assembly Inactive File.

This bill would have permitted Riverside County to establish a "Children of Incarcerated Parents Program" for the provision of comprehensive social services and would have required this program to include, at a minimum: delivery of program services through a designated, centralized entity at the county level of government that promotes a holistic health approach and refers participants to multiple health resources and services; delivery of appropriate resources and services proven to have positive effects for children and families who have experienced trauma; and supports and services related to physical, emotional, mental, environmental, and/or social health. This bill would have required Riverside County to, if it elected to establish a Children of Incarcerated Parents Program, coordinate across involved county departments in order to avoid duplication of services for eligible

children who may otherwise be receiving other services. This bill would have also required participation in the program to be voluntary and to be accompanied by written consent of the custodial parent, legal guardian, or caretaker. This bill would have required Riverside County to track and report participants' performance outcomes and to, if the state provided any financial support for the implementation of such a program, submit interim and final reports containing specified data related to the program to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

AB 3200 (Kalra, Reyes, and Thurmond) Public social services: SSI/SSP.
Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee (not heard).

This bill would have reinstated, as of January 1, 2019, the State Supplementary Payment annual cost-of-living adjustment per the California Necessities Index, subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act.

AB 3224 (Thurmond) Public social services: county employees.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 179, Statutes of 2018.

This bill requires any decisions governing eligibility for Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, or CalFresh that are made by counties in California, pursuant to current law, to be made exclusively by a merit or civil service employee of the county.

ACR 117 (Thurmond) Supervised visitation providers: training.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Res. Chapter 115, Statutes of 2018.

This resolution declares Legislative recognition of the need for statewide conformity in the training of supervised visitation providers in order to enable them to foster safe visitation environments for children and their noncustodial parents and in order to protect and support children in supervised visitation.

SB 6 (Hueso and E. Garcia) As introduced December 5, 2016: Immigrants: removal proceeding: legal services.
As amended September 5, 2017: Tribal gaming: compact ratification.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 455, Statutes of 2017.

While originally referred to and heard by both the Assembly Judiciary and Human Services Committees, this bill was amended substantially on September 5, 2017, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Human Services Committee.

SB 398 (Monning) Acquired brain trauma.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 402, Statutes of 2018.

This bill extends the sunset date for the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program from July 1, 2019, to July 1, 2024, and repeals the provisions of the bill as of January 1, 2025. This bill also expands the sources from which the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) is required to seek funding for the TBI program by deleting the requirement that DOR seek a Medi-Cal home and community based services waiver, and instead requiring DOR to pursue all available sources of funding. This bill also extends from January 1, 2012, to July 1, 2024, the date by which DOR must determine certain requirements to which service providers participating in the TBI Program must adhere. This bill

deletes language authorizing DOR to require that service providers participating in the TBI Program be approved as community rehabilitation programs and meet certain conditions upon approval of the Medicaid waiver, and instead allows DOR to require service providers be approved as community reintegration programs eligible to serve customers. This bill also extends from January 1, 2013, to July 1, 2024, the date by which DOR must comply with certain requirements related to pursuing funding for the TBI Program, and specifies that DOR must, if funding is available, solicit applications from new organizations interested in and qualified to provide services with priority given to those applications with experience in providing community reintegration.

SB 821 (Jackson and Limón) Emergency notification: county jurisdictions.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 615, Statutes of 2018.

This bill was amended on August 16, 2018, to include provisions within the jurisdiction of the Assembly Human Services Committee, and was referred to the Committee on August 20, 2018. However, the bill was subsequently amended on August 23, 2018, to remove those provisions and, as such, was withdrawn from the Assembly Human Services Committee.

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGES

AB 26 (Caballero) Child care and development: child care resource and referral programs: assistance to license-exempt child care providers.

I am returning Assembly Bill 26 without my signature.

The California Department of Education currently offers several programs that provide assistance to license-exempt child care providers. Additionally, resource and referral agencies already provide low-cost or free training in health, safety, child development and sound business practices.

A new pilot program, undifferentiated from existing programs, seems unnecessary to establish at this time.

AB 60 (Santiago) Subsidized child care and development services: stages of child care CalWORKs.

I am returning Assembly Bill 60 without my signature.

This bill would require certain information to be automatically shared between county welfare departments and local child care contractors to facilitate an effortless transition of families between child care programs. This is a good goal, as any interruption in child care coverage for a family can be devastating, particularly for working parents in the CalWORKs program.

However, this bill impacts an entitlement program and the changes contemplated in this bill have the potential to cost the state \$50 million a year and is more properly considered as part of the budget process.

AB 432 (Thurmond) Personal care services.

I am returning Assembly Bill 432 without my signature.

This bill authorizes a county to contract with either a nonprofit consortium or a public authority to be the employer of record for providers of waiver personal care services. The bill also requires the wages and benefits negotiated by the county for these providers to be equal to the wages and benefits for In-Home Supportive Services providers.

This bill could lead to unknown General Fund costs in the near term by giving counties collective bargaining authority over a state administered program that does not include a county share of cost. As with other program expansions, this is more appropriately considered as a part of the budget process.

AB 811 (Gipson) Juveniles: rights: computing technology.

I am returning Assembly Bill 811 without my signature.

This bill requires that reasonable access to computer technology and the internet be provided to foster youth, as well as youth confined in Department of Juvenile Justice or local juvenile facilities.

While I agree with this bill's intent, the inclusion of state facilities alone will cost upwards of \$15 million for infrastructure upgrades. Also, the reasonable access standard in this bill is vague, and could lead to implementation questions on top of the potentially costly state mandate created by the legislation.

I therefore urge the proponents to revisit the local aspects of this bill in the future, taking these concerns under advisement. In the meantime I am directing the Department of Juvenile Justice to present a plan in the coming year to provide computer and internet access as soon as is practicable, and that can be budgeted for accordingly.

AB 1437 (Patterson) Care facilities: criminal record clearances.

I am returning Assembly Bill 1437 without my signature.

This bill would create a new process to centralize criminal record clearances for employees of an owner of multiple licensed residential facilities.

The Department of Social Services has two simple processes for transferring employee criminal record clearances among facilities run by the same owner, one of which is nearly identical to this bill. A third process is unnecessary.

AB 1513 (Kalra) Registered home care aides: disclosure of contact information.

I am returning Assembly Bill 1513 without my signature.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to provide labor organizations with the names and telephone numbers of home care aides on the department's Home Care Registry unless a home

care aide opts out of allowing this information to be shared.

Home care aides have placed their names and personal contact information on the Registry for the purpose of allowing consumers and their families to determine whether an aide has undergone a criminal background check and received training. I am concerned about now releasing the personal information of these home care aides, who joined the registry without knowing that their information would be disclosed as prescribed by this bill.

AB 1607 (Frazier) Developmental services: integrated competitive employment.

I am returning Assembly Bill 1607 without my signature.

This bill authorizes developmentally disabled consumers to participate in more than one adult day services program to receive services focused on employment. It also establishes community-based vocational development services as a new statewide program for these consumers.

These additional services have merit; however, they should be evaluated in the annual budget process.

AB 1909 (Nazarian) In-home supportive services: written content translation.

I am returning Assembly Bill 1909 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Social Services to translate all written documents and materials for providers in the in-home supportive services (IHHS) program.

Materials in this program are translated by counties with the assistance of the department. I believe current arrangements are working reasonably well and should be continued.

AB 1921 (Maienschein and Santiago) CalWORKs: housing assistance.

I am returning the following Assembly Bills without my signature:

AB 1921
AB 1992
AB 2111

Each of these bills would make changes to the CalWORKs program that result in significant, ongoing funding commitments. As such, I believe they should be considered as part of the budget process when all funding commitments are considered and prioritized.

AB 1992 (Chu) CalWORKs eligibility: immunizations.

I am returning the following Assembly Bills without my signature:

AB 1921
AB 1992
AB 2111

Each of these bills would make changes to the CalWORKs program that result in significant, ongoing funding commitments. As such, I believe they should be considered as part of the budget process when all funding commitments are considered and prioritized.

AB 2043 (Arambula) Foster children and youth: family urgent response system.

I am returning the following five bills without my signature:

AB 2043
AB 2342
AB 2593
SB 1125
SB 1148

Each of these bills require significant, ongoing general fund commitments. As such, I believe they should be considered as part of the budget process.

AB 2111 (Quirk) CalWORKs: sponsored noncitizen: indigent exception.

I am returning the following Assembly Bills without my signature:

AB 1921
AB 1992
AB 2111

Each of these bills would make changes to the CalWORKs program that result in significant, ongoing funding commitments. As such, I believe they should be considered as part of the budget process when all funding commitments are considered and prioritized.

AB 2152 (Weber) CalFresh: able-bodied adults without dependents.

I am returning Assembly Bill 2152 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Social Services to develop a hunger screening tool to assist in the determination of whether CalFresh recipients may be exempted from time limitations on benefits.

CalFresh is a federally-funded nutrition benefit program which includes work requirements and exemptions prescribed by federal rules. Instead of codifying state policies in this program, I urge the department and counties to continue to work together to ensure those facing extreme hunger have access to these benefits.

AB 2397 (Oberholte) Health and human services: information sharing: administrative actions.

I am returning Assembly Bill 2397 without my signature.

This bill would mandate that the Departments of Aging, Health Care Services, Public Health, Social Services and the Emergency Medical Services Authority, share information regarding adverse administrative actions against licensees, facilities or providers.

This bill is unnecessary because the information called for is already being shared as authorized under current law.

AB 2602 (McCarty) Homeless youth emergency service projects.

I am returning Assembly Bill 2602 without my signature.

This bill requires the Office of Emergency Services to enter into a grant award agreement to fund a homeless youth emergency service project in Sacramento County that must begin operating by October 1, 2019.

The bill directs the Office to establish the project but does not provide funding for its operation. Services to the state's homeless youth are important, but mandating this project without a funding source would be unwise. This project should be carefully evaluated during the annual budget process.

AB 2872 (Carrillo) In-home supportive services: peer-to-peer training.

I am returning Assembly Bill 2872 without my signature.

This bill would establish a peer-to-peer training course for In-Home Supportive Services providers and require those providers who conduct the training to be compensated.

This bill is unnecessary because IHHS providers are currently required to attend a training program that covers virtually the same subjects listed in this bill.

AB 3088 (Chu) Continuing care contracts: retirement communities.

I am returning Assembly Bill 3088 without my signature.

This bill requires all Continuing Care Retirement Communities to obtain an actuarial study every five years.

These communities, which combine housing with long term health care services and supports, have a wide range of ownership interests, business models and facilities. An actuarial study may be one indication of financial viability, but the Department of Social Services uses a variety of methods to monitor the long term fiscal health of these communities.

Instead of mandating an actuarial study be done by every Continuing Care Retirement Community, the department will continue to work with residents and management to determine appropriate means to measure fiscal viability.

SB 926 (Skinner) CalWORKs and CalFresh: work requirements.

I am returning Senate Bill 926 without my signature.

This bill defines certain good cause exemptions for CalWORKs and CalFresh recipients who could otherwise be sanctioned for failing to work.

This bill is unnecessary because existing law provides county welfare departments with broad authority to grant good cause exemptions from work requirements to ensure recipients are not unjustly penalized.