

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

Assembly Human Services Committee

2019 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.

This report contains summaries of bills that were referred to, and considered by, the Assembly Human Services Committee during 2019. Bills that were passed by the Legislature and became law are shown with the chapter number; bills that were vetoed by the Governor or that otherwise failed to become law are so noted. Some bills could have been appropriately placed in several subject categories; an effort was made to place each bill under the most appropriate subject heading.

This publication is intended to be a useful summary of the Legislature's work in the area of human services during 2019. An electronic copy of this document is also available under "Publications" on the committee's web page at <http://ahum.assembly.ca.gov>.

Copies of analyses prepared by the Assembly Human Services Committee may be obtained by accessing the Official California Legislative Information internet web page maintained by the Legislative Counsel at www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov, or by writing to the Assembly Human Services Committee, Legislative Office Building, 1020 N Street - Room 124, Sacramento, CA 95814.

In addition to hearing bills, this committee held several oversight and informational hearings during this Session. You will find summaries of each hearing at the end of this report.

Acronyms used in this report are as follows:

Able-bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD)
All County Letters (ACLs)
Alternative Payment Program (APP)
California Community Colleges (CCCs)
California Department of Aging (CDA)
California Department of Education (CDE)
California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS)
California Healthcare Eligibility, Enrollment, and Retention System (CalHEERS)
California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)
Child and Family Team (CFT)
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)
Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD)
Continuum of Care (CoC)
Department of Developmental Services (DDS)
Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS)
Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT)
Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT)
Family Child Care Home Education Networks (FCCHENs)
Federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (ICWA)
Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
Foster Family Agencies (FFAs)
Individual Program Plan (IPP)
In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)
Intensive Services Foster Care (ISFC)
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs)
Nonminor Dependent (NMD)
Nonrelative Extended Family Member (NREFM)
Office of Systems Integration (OSI)
Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE)
Restaurant Meals Program (RMP)
Short-term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs)
State Supplementary Payment (SSP)
Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS)
Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP)
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
Traditional Housing Provider (THP)
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Welfare-to-Work (WTW)

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CalFresh

AB-341 (Maienschein) - CalHEERS: application for CalFresh.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require, if an individual is potentially eligible and wants to apply for CalFresh, OSI to ensure that CalHEERS transfers that individual's health care benefits application to the applicant's county of residence and would require the county to treat the application as a CalFresh application.

AB-494 (Berman) - CalFresh: eligibility: shelter expense deductions.

Status: Chapter 90, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires CDSS to issue guidance that both establishes shelter costs reported on CalFresh applications and semiannual report forms are sufficient for determining excess shelter costs and prohibits a county human services agency from requesting additional documents to verify excess shelter costs, except when the reported costs are questionable. This bill also allows CDSS to implement and administer the provisions of the bill through ACLs or similar instructions.

AB-534 (Mayes) - Social services: access to food.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would establish the "Envision a Hunger-Free California Act of 2019", and would require CDSS, CDPH, CDE, and CDFA to develop a plan to end hunger. This bill would also require the plan to be distributed to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2021, and would require that the plan: identify food deserts and make maps of food deserts available online; identify infrastructure needs to develop food hubs and work with the Department of General Services to create an inventory of state-owned property that would be suitable for food hub locations; and, make recommendations for improving food access, among other requirements.

AB-612 (Weber) - CalFresh: Restaurant Meals Program.

Status: Chapter 804, Statutes of 2019

This bill allows CDSS to enter into a MOU with the Chancellor of CCCs in order to enable qualifying food facilities located on the campus to participate in the RMP. This bill also allows qualified food facilities located on a CCC campus to participate in the RMP.

AB-942 (Weber) - CalFresh: Restaurant Meals Program.

Status: Chapter 814, Statutes of 2019

This bill establishes the "Access to Safe Food Choices and Food Security Act of 2019" and requires CDSS, in consultation with stakeholders, including county human services agencies and advocates for CalFresh recipients, to the extent permitted by federal law, to establish a statewide RMP. This bill also requires CDSS to implement the provisions of the bill no later than September 1, 2020, by ACLs or similar instructions from the director.

AB-1022 (Wicks) - California Anti-Hunger Response and Employment Training Act of 2019.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would require CDSS to establish the "California Anti-Hunger Response and Employment Training" (CARET) Act of 2019 for individuals who are deemed ineligible for CalFresh benefits, or for whom CalFresh benefits have been discontinued as a result of the federal ABAWD time limit and who are ineligible for a percentage exemption to receive benefits. This bill would require an individual to receive CARET benefits in the same amount as the CalFresh benefits they would have received were it not for the ABAWD time limit rendering them ineligible. This bill would also deem a CARET program recipient as eligible for the same CalFresh Employment and Training benefits for which they would be eligible were they not deemed ineligible for CalFresh benefits due to the ABAWD time limit. This bill would also require CARET benefits be delivered through a state-administered and state-funded EBT system, and would allow the state-funded EBT system to be used to issue other state-funded food assistance benefits. This bill would also make inoperative certain provisions of the bill establishing the CARET program in the event that federal law and guidance prohibit the state from retaining individual exemption allocations for use in a later month. This bill would also require CDSS, in consultation with OSI and relevant stakeholders, to develop and issue guidance no later than April 1, 2020, related to the use of percentage exemptions, as well as the redistribution of percentage exemptions between counties if deemed necessary.

AB-1229 (Wicks) - End Foster Youth Student Hunger in California Act of 2019.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would establish the "End Foster Youth Student Hunger in California Act of 2019," and would require the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC), no later than July 1, 2020, to report to the Legislature the amount of funding and the authority it would need to establish a "Transition Age Foster Youth Meal Plan Program", and would require CSAC, in developing the report, to make certain assumptions related to the purpose of the program, eligibility criteria for participation, and award amounts. This bill would also require CDSS to establish an official approval process to ensure that paid or unpaid internship hours worked by a foster youth may be used to meet eligibility standards to qualify as a student in the CalFresh program, and, further, would require CDSS, no later than January 1, 2021, to seek all necessary waivers from the USDA to implement the provisions of the bill related to internship work hours. This bill would also require CDSS to issue guidance to county human services departments to increase CalFresh applications and participation rates of foster youth exiting the child welfare system. This bill would also require CDSS to provide a state-funded cash benefit for NMDs in a SILP for purposes of food assistance, and, further, would require the amount of the benefit to be equal to the maximum benefit amount allotted for a household size of one under the CalFresh program.

AB-1377 (Wicks) - CalFresh.

Status: Chapter 461, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires CDE, DHCS, and CDSS, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop a proposed statewide process for utilizing data collected across the free and reduced-price

school meals program, Medi-Cal, CalFresh, and EBT, in addition to any necessary outreach and referrals to counties, in order to increase enrollment in the CalFresh program. This bill also requires CDE, DHCS, and CDSS, with stakeholder input, to examine data from those programs, research past efforts to increase enrollment into CalFresh for certain populations, and examine different approaches that could increase enrollment in CalFresh. This bill also requires CDE, DHCS, and CDSS, no later than August 31, 2020, to submit recommendations related to requirements enumerated in the bill, as well as any issues identified related to increasing enrollment in CalFresh, to the relevant policy committees of the Legislature. This bill also makes inoperative requirements related to the working group as of January 1, 2024.

SB-173 (Dodd) - CalFresh: postsecondary student eligibility: workstudy.

Status: Chapter 139, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires CDSS to work with stakeholders to create a standardized form to verify that a student is approved for, and anticipating participation in, state or federal work-study in order to better enable county human services agencies to determine if a student is potentially eligible for CalFresh benefits.

SB-285 (Wiener) - Public social services.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File.

This bill would require CDSS, DHCS, OSI and the SAWS consortia to discuss and determine how the public-facing elements of CalSAWS may allow users to begin applications for other public assistance programs, and would also require CDSS to oversee a state and local accountability partnership with county human services agencies and other stakeholders to increase CalFresh participation and retention throughout the state. This bill would also require CDSS to establish statewide goals for CalFresh participation and improvement, and would require CDSS to identify or develop, no later than September 1, 2020, a proxy metric for the CalFresh participation rate. This bill would also require CDSS and counties to work with community partners and stakeholders to identify the most effective actions that can be implemented to increase access and participation in CalFresh, consistent with state and federal law. This bill would also require CDSS to complete a number of tasks to support counties and their community partners in increasing and retaining CalFresh participants, including: provide counties with timely, accurately translated materials, and maintain a CalFresh data dashboard that includes statewide and county-specific data, among others. This bill would also require, to the extent permitted under federal law, an individual to have the option to apply, report, and recertify for CalFresh benefits in person, by mail, online, or by telephone, and would require an individual to have the option to complete the interview and the required signature by telephone. Finally, this bill would require counties currently using the Consortium IV or LEADER Replacement System of the SAWS, on or before January 1, 2022, to comply with certain provisions of the bill related to an individual's ability to apply, report, and recertify for CalFresh in person, by mail, online, or by telephone, and, further, would require counties currently using the Welfare Client Data System of SAWS to comply with those requirements beginning on or before January 1, 2023.

SB-470 (Skinner) - Electronic benefits transfer system.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File.

This bill would require the EBT system to limit the purchase of food through an online transaction only to retailers that are authorized to accept CalFresh benefits by the USDA, and, further, would establish standards with which retail establishments authorized to accept online purchases using CalFresh benefits must comply. This bill would also require CDSS, in consultation with OSI, county human services agencies, consumer advocates, public benefit recipient advocates, representatives of public benefit caseworkers, food workers, grocery industry, and other relevant stakeholders, to establish protocols to prohibit retailers from accepting online food benefits through the EBT system if the retailer does not meet the requirements set forth in the provisions of the bill. This bill would also require CDSS, in consultation with stakeholders, to establish qualifications, processes, and standards required to certify, and periodically recertify, retailers as eligible to accept payments online using cash benefits, and determine the allowable online purchases that may be made using cash benefits.

SB-490 (Hurtado) - CalFresh: benefit overissuance.

Status: Chapter 550, Statutes of 2019

This bill prohibits the establishment and collection of an overissuance of CalFresh benefits caused by inadvertent household error if the overissuance is less than \$400, and also increases from \$125 to \$400 the threshold for collecting an overissuance of CalFresh benefits caused by administrative error from former CalFresh households. This bill also requires CDSS, no later than January 1, 2021, to develop a policy to compromise administrative error claims for households that include at least one elderly or disabled member. This bill also deletes the \$35 trigger for collecting overissuances caused by inadvertent household error from former CalFresh households, and instead increases that trigger to \$400. This bill also deletes outdated language requiring CDSS to determine whether there is adequate information to set a minimum statewide cost-effective threshold for collecting CalFresh overissuances from former CalFresh recipients that are caused by administrative error, among other requirements.

CalWORKs

AB-283 (Chu) - CalWORKs: immunizations: truancy.

Status: Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have deleted the CalWORKs school attendance requirement and penalty for not attending school by deleting provisions of current law that state that the family's CalWORKs grant be reduced for any month in which the county is informed that the child was not attending school unless certain conditions exist. This bill would have provided that if a child is not attending school as required by current law, the family may be informed of how to enroll the child and would have required applicants for and recipients of CalWORKs to be informed of the general compulsory education requirements. This bill would have also increased the number of days that CalWORKs applicants and recipients have to provide documentation that all children in the assistance unit who are not required to be enrolled in school have received all age-appropriate immunizations to 60 days and would

have increased the period for a good-cause extension from 30 to 60 days. This bill would have authorized an applicant or recipient who has not provided required documentation within specified timeframes to have a 60-day grace period to comply prior to funds being withheld from the assistance unit's grant and, further, would have required a county to ensure that an applicant or recipient has received specified notification of the grace period prior to funds being withheld. This bill would have removed the option for a CalWORKs applicant or recipient to be exempt from immunization requirements by filing an affidavit with the county welfare department attesting that the immunizations are contrary to their beliefs. This bill would have eliminated the personal belief exemption for all new applicants for aid and for current recipients of aid who do not already exercise the personal belief exemption on January 1, 2020, and from recipients currently exercising the personal belief exemption after January 1, 2021. This bill would have also required the notice mandated by current law to be given to CalWORKs applicants and recipients at the time of application and redetermination of eligibility to include a statement that the applicant or recipient has the right to receive nonmedical transportation services through their Medi-Cal managed care plan necessary to ensure immunization of a child, and a notice of the 60-day grace period and of the sanctions for failing to correct a violation.

AB-807 (Bauer-Kahan) - CalWORKs eligibility: income exemptions.

Status: Chapter 440, Statutes of 2019

This bill stipulates that, for purposes of determining a CalWORKs applicant's or recipient's eligibility and benefit amounts, any awards or scholarships provided by a public or private entity to, or on behalf of, a dependent child are exempt from being counted as income, and to declare for purposes of the CalWORKs program, that any income or stipend paid by the United States Census Bureau, a governmental entity, or a nonprofit organization for temporary work related to improving participation in the decennial census that is earned during the year preceding a decennial census and during the year of the decennial census is not income. This bill states that, in order to ensure that the exemptions contained in provisions of this bill are in effect for qualified workers employed during 2019 for the 2020 Census; this bill is an urgency statute, as specified, thereby requiring it to go into effect immediately.

AB-944 (Quirk) - CalWORKs: sponsored noncitizen: indigence exception.

Status: Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have required counties to renew the 12-month indigence exception period for certain sponsored CalWORKs program applicants and recipients for additional 12-month periods, if federally permissible, and would have clarified that sponsor-deeming is subject to exceptions allowed by federal law. This bill would have required CDSS to commence implementing the 12-month renewal when CDSS notifies the Legislature that CalSAWS can perform the necessary automation to implement it and would have authorized CDSS to implement and administer the provisions of this bill through ACLs or similar instructions until such regulations are adopted and requires CDSS to adopt regulations no later than 24 months after release of the ACLs.

AB-960 (Maienschein) - CalWORKs: homeless assistance.

Status: Chapter 444, Statutes of 2019

This bill expands the type of housing for which a CalWORKs homeless assistance payment can be made to include a person with whom, or an establishment with which, the family

requesting assistance has executed a valid lease, sublease, or shared housing agreement. This bill requires CDSS to implement the act through an ACL or similar instruction until final regulations are adopted. This bill requires CDSS to adopt emergency regulations by January 1, 2021, or 18 months after the ACLs or similar instructions are issued, whichever is later.

AB-987 (Robert Rivas) - CalWORKs: special diet and food preparation allowance.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would require reasons for which a county must grant a recurring special needs allowance for special diets to include, but not be limited to, verified lack of access to potable water and a recipient child having an elevated blood lead level. This bill would require, to the extent permitted by federal law, the special diet allowance to be provided in the form of a supplemental food benefit, and prohibit it from being considered income for the purposes of determining eligibility for, or benefit amount of, any state or local means-tested benefit program. This bill would provide that a recurring special needs allowance may be granted for food preparation needs upon the recommendation of a physician. This bill would clarify that a county shall not grant a recurring special needs allowance for special diets or food preparation needs if the need for a special diet or food preparation is solely attributable to pregnancy, would prohibit a county from requiring the recommendation of a physician for the allowance for special diets or food preparation if there is a verified lack of access to potable water, and would authorize a county to waive the requirement for a physician's recommendation and grant either such allowance if the county has reason to believe that a recipient household lacks access to potable water. Additionally, this bill would require the recurring needs allowance to be delivered through the EBT system, as specified.

AB-1436 (Mark Stone) - CalWORKs: eligibility: income exemptions.

Status: Referred to the Senate Human Services Committee and awaiting a hearing.

This bill would exempt, as of January 1, 2020, the first \$500 of disability-based unearned income, or disability-based unearned income plus nonexempt earned income, when calculating a family's income for purposes of determining their monthly CalWORKs grant level; exempt, as of January 1, 2021, the first \$550 of disability-based unearned income, or disability-based unearned income plus nonexempt earned income, when calculating a family's income for purposes of determining their monthly CalWORKs grant level; exempt, as of January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the first \$600 of disability-based unearned income, or disability-based unearned income plus nonexempt earned income, when calculating a family's income for purposes of determining their monthly CalWORKs grant level. Additionally, this bill would increase, as of January 1, 2023, and each subsequent year, the amount of exempted income by an amount equal to the increase in the California Necessities Index (CNI) for the most recent fiscal year when calculating a family's income for purposes of determining their monthly CalWORKs grant level.

SB-321 (Mitchell) - CalWORKs: supportive services: childcare.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee and awaiting a hearing.

This bill would increase access to childcare for WTW participants by, among other things, requiring that the childcare be full-time, requiring first-stage childcare to be authorized for

one year, or until the participant is transferred to the second stage of childcare, and prohibiting the first stage or the second stage of childcare from being discontinued until the family has been enrolled or is ineligible for services in the subsequent stage of childcare. This bill would also specify additional activities for which childcare services are available and require that WTW participants be informed of the availability of childcare services at various times and require specified information sharing between the counties and childcare contractors.

SB-365 (Durazo) - CalWORKs: immediate needs assistance.

Status: Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have required counties, at the time of application, to determine if a CalWORKs applicant has an immediate need for childcare assistance and whether the applicant is apparently eligible for CalWORKs and, if both determinations are made, provide immediate childcare assistance and verify the applicant's CalWORKs eligibility for aid within 15 days of the request for immediate need. This bill would have required the county to determine that an applicant needs immediate childcare assistance in either of the following instances: the applicant has verification of a job or job offer and childcare assistance is needed to maintain or obtain employment, or the applicant is in need of childcare assistance in order to attend an educational or training activity. This bill would have provided that payment for care exempt from licensure would occur only after trustline registration has been completed. The provisions of this bill would have become operative on July 1, 2020, or when the department notified the Legislature that CalSAWS was able to perform the automation necessary to implement these provisions.

Childcare

AB-6 (Reyes) - Early childhood education: Early Childhood Education Branch.

Status: On the Inactive File on the Senate Floor.

This bill would require, by January 1, 2021, the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to establish an interagency workgroup composed of representatives from CDSS, DHCS, CDPH, DDS, and other relevant entities within CHHS, and the California Children and Families Commission. The workgroup would identify administrative changes to improve the coordination of services provided to children in early learning and care programs. This bill would require the interagency workgroup to report on its work to the Governor, SPI, and relevant budget and policy committees of the Legislature at least annually. Additionally, this bill would require, by January 15, 2021, the SPI to establish a quality improvement workgroup that would, among other things, review and propose revisions to the current quality rating and improvement system, and program standards; and develop and review strategies and criteria for a standardized early childhood education curriculum.

AB-125 (McCarty) - Early childhood education: reimbursement rates.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would require CDE to, by July 1, 2020, and each year thereafter, establish a reimbursement rate target for each contracting agency that meets quality standards based on the following elements: the regional market rate ceilings for the agency's county; the quality adjustment factor proposed by provisions of this bill for the age range of children

proposed to be served by the contracting agency, as a multiplier; the program year and hours of service reimbursement factor, if applicable; and, additional adjustment factors for special circumstances or services. This bill would require CDE to establish the following quality adjustment factors by age range: 1.23 for infants who are 0 to 18 months old; 1.23 for toddlers who are 18 to 36 months old; 1.23 for preschoolers who are 36 months to 6 years old; and, 1.03 for school age children who are 6 years of age or older. This bill would require the reimbursement system plan to include a formula for annually adjusting reimbursement rates for each agency, based on the following: the annual Budget Act funding allocated for standard reimbursement rate (SRR) increases; an equitable distribution of SRR increases to agencies, by county, as an equal percentage of the county outstanding rate target, for purposes of meeting the targets identified by provisions of this bill; and, funding allocated for cost-of-living adjustments, if applicable.

AB-163 (Cristina Garcia) - Services for unaccompanied undocumented minors: facilities liaison.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require the creation of a facilities liaison position within CDSS's Immigration Services Unit in order to assist certain facilities and families providing care to undocumented immigrant youth with services and supports aimed at ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of those youth. This bill would require the facilities liaison to assist state-licensed group homes, STRTPs, FFAs, and resource families that serve undocumented immigrant youth with appropriate supports and services, to include, but not be limited to, legal services, mental health assessments and services, and public benefits. This bill would require the facilities liaison to: assist in arranging a meeting for identified unaccompanied undocumented minors with a qualified legal services grantee; work to identify available services and supports and connect licensees serving undocumented youth to these services and supports; and, communicate regularly with CDSS's CCLD about any complaints or licensing concerns regarding licensees that house and serve undocumented youth in order to help address any concerns through referral to appropriate services and supports. This bill would require CDSS, in consultation with other state and county agencies that serve undocumented immigrant youth, to develop and issue guidance for counties, licensees, and other providers regarding the provision of appropriate services and supports.

AB-167 (Blanca Rubio) - Childcare and development services: infants and toddlers: state funding.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would establish the "California Partnership for Infants and Toddlers Act" to provide grants in the amount of \$4,000 per child per year to childcare and development programs and FCCHENs that meet federal Head Start standards and provide full-day, full-year childcare for infants and toddlers ages zero to three years old. This bill would state Legislative intent to provide funds to serve an additional 20,000 infants and toddlers from birth to three years of age with high-quality childcare. This bill would permit, for purposes of awarding the grants, CDE to waive an element of the federal Head Start program performance standards in order to meet unique needs, and would require CDE to evaluate the need for this waiver on an annual basis. This bill would require CDE to adopt regulations to implement the grant program, as specified.

AB-194 (Reyes) - Childcare and development services.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require, upon appropriation in the annual Budget Act or other statute, \$1 billion to be made available to immediately improve access to APPs and general childcare and development programs for the state's eligible children and families in need. This bill would make a number of Legislative findings and declarations related to the importance of quality early care and education programs to children and families, and related to the severe shortage of subsidized childcare in California. This bill would also state Legislative intent to, in recognition of the benefits that quality early care and education bring to children and families, enact legislation that would build a strong foundation for the early care and education system so that it can optimally serve the unique needs of California's families and young children.

AB-324 (Aguiar-Curry) - Childcare services: state subsidized childcare: professional support stipends.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would recast provisions of current law related to the expenditure of certain funds for the retention of licensed providers of subsidized childcare in family day care homes by deleting certain provisions and, instead, requiring certain funds appropriated in the annual Budget Act to be allocated to APP agencies to provide professional support stipends to qualified licensed providers of subsidized childcare, as specified. This bill would require the CDE, upon an appropriation by the Legislature, to provide professional support stipends to qualified childcare employees in subsidized childcare centers and FCCHEs. This bill would recast requirements related to CDE's development of guidelines for use by local childcare and development planning councils by deleting certain requirements and instead requires CDE to develop guidelines for use by both local childcare and development planning councils and APP agencies, and partnerships providing stipends in developing unified county spending plans, in coordination with the local Quality Counts California county consortium. This bill would also stipulate that any county plan developed pursuant to the guidelines must be approved by CDE prior to allocation of funds to the local childcare and development planning council or APP agency, and would require CDE to ensure that county plans meet a number of requirements, as specified. Further, this bill would require CDE to allow an approved county plan to establish a local childcare and development planning council as the fiscal agent for professional support stipends.

AB-452 (Mullin) - Childcare: facilities: grants.

Status: Referred to the Senate Education and awaiting a hearing.

This bill would establish the "California Childcare Facilities Grant Fund" (CCFGF) in the State Treasury and require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, moneys in the fund to be used for specified purposes. This bill would delete language in current law establishing and governing the Childcare Facilities Revolving Fund (CCFRF) in the State Treasury and transfer all moneys from the CCFRF to the CCFGF. This bill would require CDE to develop and administer the California Childcare Facilities Grant Program (CCFGP) to support the construction of new childcare centers or the renovation, repair, or modernization of existing childcare centers and family childcare homes that serve children in subsidized childcare and development programs. This bill would establish authorizations, requirements, and parameters regarding the development and administration of the CCFGP

including but not limited to: authority for CDE to award grants of up to \$1,000,000 for childcare facilities and \$50,000 for childcare homes; the requirement for CDE to prioritize provider applicants that serve infants and toddlers or are recovering from a disaster; required recoupment of grant funds spent on projects that do not make at least 50% of their slots available for subsidized childcare for at least 10 years (childcare centers) or 5 years (family childcare homes); and, reporting requirements for grantees and CDE. This bill would sunset the CCFGF and CCFGP as of July 1, 2030.

AB-1001 (Ting) - Childcare: local planning councils.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would delete language requiring a local planning council to have consumers, childcare providers, public agency representatives, community representatives, and agency appointees each represent 20% of membership, as specified, and instead, change the name of local childcare and development planning councils to "strategic local childcare and development councils" ("strategic planning councils") requiring them to include a wide breadth of members that serve 3-year terms. This bill would permit the county board of supervisors and the county superintendent of schools to mutually agree to merge the strategic planning council and the Quality Rating and Improvement System local consortia and permit county boards of supervisors and county superintendents of schools in two or more contiguous counties to merge their strategic planning councils. This bill would revise current requirements placed on planning councils related to their identification of local priorities and assessment of childcare needs by, among other things, requiring CDE to increase standardization of the quinquennial needs assessment. Additionally, this bill would require, subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act, a strategic planning council, by March 30, 2021, and every three years thereafter, to develop and submit to the county board of supervisors and the county board of education a strategic plan and investment priorities, and establish requirements and processes related to the development and submission of the plan and priorities.

AB-1716 (Kiley) - Family childcare home education networks.

Status: Hearing postponed by the Assembly Human Services Committee.

This bill would require family childcare home education network contractors to offer family childcare home providers at least 12 hours per year of training and technical assistance. The training and technical assistance would include at least age- and developmentally-appropriate educational practices and activities for children, appropriate care and supervision of children, engaging parents in the program and providing parenting information on age-appropriate child development and activities, menu planning and nutrition information, and provider and family communication.

SB-174 (Leyva) - Early childhood education: reimbursement rates.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee and awaiting a hearing.

This bill would delete language requiring the regional market rate (RMR) for providers of subsidized childcare to be at least at the 75th percentile of the 2016 RMR survey and, instead, require the RMR to be at least the 75th percentile of the 2018 RMR survey until January 1, 2021; and require, as of January 1, 2021, the RMR to be at least the 85th percentile of the 2018 RMR survey. This bill would change from March 1 of each year to December 1 of each year the date by which the Department of Finance is required to provide CDE with the state median income and the goal completion date of the RMR survey.

This bill would establish the “Quality Counts California Pilot Reimbursement Program,” and establish specified requirements for CDE and APP providers regarding the pilot program.

SB-234 (Skinner) - Family daycare homes.

Status: Chapter 244, Statutes of 2019

This bill clarifies that a small or large family day care home is where the day care provider resides and includes a dwelling that is rented, leased, or owned, and that such home can include a detached single-family dwelling, a townhouse, or a dwelling unit within a dwelling or within a covered multifamily dwelling in which the underlying zoning allows for residential uses. This bill prohibits a property owner or manager from refusing to sell or rent, or to negotiate for the sale or rental of, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling or dwelling unit to a person because that person is a family day care provider and would state that an attempt to deny, restrict, or encumber the conveyance, leasing, or mortgaging of real property for use or occupancy as a family day care home is void. This bill requires CDSS to notify the applicant that remedies and procedures relating to fair housing are available to family day care home providers and provider applicants and individuals who claim that certain protections have been denied, as specified. This bill provides that provisions of this bill and current law related to use and occupancy of a property do not alter the existing rights of landlords and tenants, as specified, and expands the requirement in current law that the State Fire Marshal adopt separate building standards to be published in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations relating to the subject of fire and life safety in large family day care homes to also include small family day care homes.

SB-321 (Mitchell) - CalWORKs: supportive services: childcare.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee and awaiting a hearing.

This bill would increase access to childcare for WTW participants by, among other things, requiring that the childcare be full-time, requiring first-stage childcare to be authorized for one year, or until the participant is transferred to the second stage of childcare, and prohibiting the first stage or the second stage of childcare from being discontinued until the family has been enrolled or is ineligible for services in the subsequent stage of childcare. This bill would also specify additional activities for which childcare services are available and require that WTW participants be informed of the availability of childcare services at various times and require specified information sharing between the counties and childcare contractors.

Child Welfare Services and Foster Care

AB-175 (Gipson) - Foster care: rights.

Status: Chapter 416, Statutes of 2019

This bill expands the duties of the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson (Office) to provide training and technical assistance to foster youth, social workers, and probation officers related to the rights of children and youth in foster care. This bill also requires the Office to review amendments to the law applicable to foster youth and determine whether updates to foster youth rights should be recommended. This bill also expands and recasts state law on the rights of minors and nonminors in foster care, and enumerates a youth's right to receive grooming and hygiene products regardless of sexual orientation and

gender identity and includes substance use disorder services among the other currently required health-related resources to be provided to foster youth, among other changes.

AB-337 (Quirk-Silva) - Foster care payments: reasonable travel reimbursement for school.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require a county, at the time of placement or within three business days of identifying the school in which a youth is enrolled, to notify a foster care provider if the provider is eligible to receive reasonable travel reimbursement, in addition to the basic rate, for the costs of providing transportation. This bill would also require a county, in instances when a youth is placed with an emergency caregiver, to notify the emergency caregiver if the caregiver is eligible to receive a travel reimbursement. This bill would also include among the existing requirements for counties related to emergency caregiver placements made on or after July 1, 2018, the requirement that each county provide a payment to an emergency caregiver in order to cover the cost of reasonable travel for a foster youth to remain in the school in which the youth is enrolled at the time of placement.

AB-395 (Blanca Rubio) - Child abuse or neglect: foster children.

Status: Hearing postponed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

This bill would require a timely investigation be completed in instances when CDSS, or another agency with oversight authority over certain community care facilities serving foster youth, becomes aware of an allegation of child abuse or neglect. This bill would also require CDSS, or the oversight agency, to cooperate with other agencies to coordinate existing duties in connection with the investigation of suspected child abuse or neglect, and, would also allow the agencies to work together to avoid duplicative interviews of an alleged victim to reduce trauma and promote efficiency. This bill would also place a number of requirements on the investigations conducted by CDSS or any other oversight agency, including: utilization of a forensic interview of the suspected victim of abuse or neglect; a face-to-face interview in private with the suspected victim of abuse or neglect; and, an interview with any adults residing in, or staff present at, the facility at the time of the alleged incident of abuse or neglect, among other requirements. This bill would also require an investigation conducted by CDSS or the oversight agency to be completed no later than 45 days after receiving notice of the allegation of abuse or neglect, with a potential extension of 45 days upon supervisory review and approval. This bill would also require the approving or licensing agency, whichever is applicable, to send a copy of its investigation report to the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson (Office), and would require the Office to review a representative sample of the investigations annually and include determinations of the extent to which the investigations complied with the investigation protocols. This bill would also require certain entities, including law enforcement and county welfare departments, who receive a report of alleged abuse or neglect from a mandated reporter to notify the agency with oversight over the home.

AB-465 (Eggman) - Juveniles: dual status children.

While originally referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was substantially amended on August 28, 2019, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the committee.

AB-531 (Friedman) - Foster youth: housing.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would address certain affordable housing needs of youth in the foster care system by allowing a host family operating as a transitional housing unit to be certified as a THP, or consist of certain licensed or approved caregivers. This bill would also allow a county to certify that SILPs meet health and safety standards once every 12 months, as long as the county has no reason to believe that the health and safety conditions of the housing option have changed. This bill would also require a THP to disburse payments between the transitional housing placement provider, the host family, and the NMD. This bill would also allow a resource parent, approved relative caregiver, NREFM, foster family home, or certified family home to be converted to a host family without additional certification in order to support an NMD. This bill would also allow, subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act, a child welfare agency to request housing navigation funding, and would subject housing navigation services and navigators to certain requirements. This bill would also require CDSS to track the provision of housing navigation services and document reported outcomes.

AB-685 (Reyes) - Juveniles: Indian tribes: counsel.

Status: Referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would require the State Bar of California, upon appropriation of no less than \$1 million in the annual Budget Act, to administer grants to qualified legal services projects and support centers to provide legal services to Indian tribes in child welfare matters. This bill would also include the ICWA and cultural competency and sensitivity relating to, and best practices for, providing adequate care to Indian children in out-of-home care among the training topics required of legal counsel appointed to a parent or guardian. This bill would also require the court of appeals, in any appellate proceeding involving an Indian child, to appoint separate counsel for the child's Indian tribe upon request of the child's Indian tribe.

AB-686 (Waldron) - Indian children.

Status: Chapter 434, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires, in the case of an out-of-home placement for an Indian child for whom the child's tribe is not exercising its right to approve a home, the county or the FFA to apply the prevailing social and cultural standards of the Indian community to resource family approval for that child, and for CDSS to engage in the tribal consultation process and develop regulations to implement these provisions. This bill requires the Judicial Council, by July 1, 2021, to adopt rules of court to allow for fee-free telephonic or other remote appearance options by an Indian child's tribe in proceedings where ICWA may apply. This bill stipulates that tribal home approvals for the purpose of foster or adoptive placement of an Indian child are not subject to resource family approval requirements.

AB-718 (Eggman) - Dependent children: documents.

Status: Chapter 438, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires, at the first regularly scheduled review hearing after a dependent youth has turned 16 years old, a county welfare department to submit a report verifying that certain documents, information and services have been provided to the youth, including, among other things: the youth's social security card; a copy of the youth's birth certificate; the youth's driver's license or identification card; and assistance with obtaining

employment, financial aid, access to education and training, and financial literacy resources. This bill revises the list of documents, information, and services that a county welfare department must verify have been provided to a youth at the last review hearing prior to the youth's 18th birthday. This bill also revises the report that a county welfare department must submit to the court describing efforts toward providing specified documents, information, and services at the last review hearing prior to that youth's 18th birthday, and at every subsequent review hearing. This bill requires a county welfare department to verify, in a report to the juvenile court, that written information notifying a youth about financial literacy resources is included among the list of documents, information, and services that current law requires to be provided to a nonminor prior to dependency jurisdiction being terminated.

AB-734 (Maienschein) - Resource families: supportive services pilot program.

Status: *Vetoed by the Governor*

This bill would have required CDSS to establish a pilot program in up to five counties in order to increase placement stability for foster youth and facilitate greater resource family retention through strengths-based, skills-based, trauma-informed coaching. This bill also would have required CDSS to consult with relevant stakeholders, including foster youth, resource families, and biological families, among others, and consider stakeholder recommendations regarding certain parameters of the pilot program, such as application and selection criteria for participating counties, application and selection criteria for coaches, and criteria used by counties to evaluate the effectiveness of the program in achieving the overall goals of the pilot program, among others. This bill would have also required participating counties to conduct at least one evaluation regarding the program's impact and effectiveness, and, further, would have required a participating county to submit its evaluation to CDSS no later than December 1, 2022.

AB-748 (Gipson) - Nonminor dependents.

Status: *Chapter 682, Statutes of 2019*

This bill requires the court to hold a dispositional proceeding for a youth 18 years of age if: the youth, prior to attaining 18 years of age, was determined to be within the jurisdiction of the court at a jurisdictional hearing and was continuously detained by the court; and, the youth has provided informed consent to the dispositional proceeding. This bill also requires the court, in the event that the youth does not provide informed consent, or the court does not make certain findings related to whether the youth is within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, to vacate the temporary detention order, and further, prohibits dependency or general jurisdiction from being retained. This bill also requires Judicial Council, on or before July 1, 2020, to amend or adopt rules of court, and develop or amend appropriate forms, as necessary to implement the provisions of the bill.

AB-819 (Mark Stone) - Foster care.

Status: *Chapter 777, Statutes of 2019*

This bill adopts changes to further facilitate implementation of Continuum of Care Reform 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 flexibility for resource families, exclusions from resource family homes, financial resources available to tribally approved homes, the provision of

intensive services foster care, and the ability of group home staff to administer emergency injections, among others.

AB-826 (Reyes) - Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services: foster youth.

Status: Referred to the Senate Human Services Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would exclude foster youth placed in a STRTP outside of their county of original jurisdiction from being subject to the provisions of presumptive transfer, unless an exception is invoked. This bill would specify that an exception may be invoked for reasons that include: if a foster youth's case plan includes a transition to a home-based setting in the county of residence or within the same geographic region; or, the mental health plan in the county of residence requests presumptive transfer to directly serve the youth, and continued oversight and ensuring consistency of services can be provided through the members of the youth's treatment team. This bill would also delineate the circumstances and protocols related to presumptive transfer for youth placed in an out-of-county STRTP. This bill would also require the DHCS, in collaboration with CDSS, to collect data on the receipt of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment specialty mental health services by foster youth who are placed outside of their county of original jurisdiction, and further, would require the data to be included in DHCS' Medi-Cal specialty mental health services performance dashboard. This bill would also require DHCS and CDSS to create standardized forms related to presumptive transfer or waiver thereof no later than March 1, 2020.

AB-850 (Lackey) - Social workers: student loan repayment program.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would establish and require the "Office of Statewide Health Planning" (Office) to administer the "California Social Worker Student Loan Repayment Program" (Program) in order to enable an applicant who meets specific eligibility criteria to be eligible to receive a loan repayment award for purposes of repaying student loans. This bill would also require the Office to establish rules and regulations related to the Program, which include provisions related to the period of time for which a loan repayment award shall remain valid, the reallocation of loan repayment awards that are not utilized, and the development of projections for funding purposes. This bill would also establish the "California Social Worker Student Loan Repayment Fund" within the State Treasury, and, upon appropriation, make those funds available for purposes of the Program. This bill would also make the Program operative contingent upon appropriate funding, as determined by the Office, is made available for that purpose by the Legislature or other sources.

AB-861 (Chen) - Juveniles.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would conform the definition of, "homeless youth" to the federally defined "homeless children and youths." This bill would reduce, from three weeks to 10 business days, the amount of time a social worker has to take action on an affidavit alleging maltreatment of, and seeking establishment of juvenile court jurisdiction over, a child who is homeless or who has been in, or received informal services or probation, respectively, through the child welfare services or juvenile justice systems. This bill would also require a juvenile court to take action, as specified, on applications requesting review of a social

worker's decision regarding an affidavit alleging maltreatment of, and seeking establishment of juvenile court jurisdiction over, a child within 14 days after that application is made to the juvenile court.

AB-865 (Reyes) - Resource family approval: training.

Status: Chapter 810, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires certain information related to CSEC, which may include informational pamphlets addressing the identification of victims of commercial sexual exploitation and the provision of existing resources, such as hotline numbers, survivor and caregiver supports, and contact information for law enforcement entities, to be provided to resource family applicants during the preapproval caregiver training process. This bill also requires counties to ensure that resource families that care for children who are 10 years of age or older attend, within 12 months of approval as a resource family, training on best practices for providing care to children who have been trafficked. This bill also prohibits a resource family from being required to complete the training again, except in instances where a county requires a resource family or applicant to receive specialized training in order to prepare the resource family to meet the needs a particular child, as is specified in current law.

AB-995 (Ting) - Transitional Housing Program-Plus.

While originally referred to and heard by the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was amended substantially on September 6, 2019, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

AB-1005 (Arambula) - Foster children and youth: family urgent response system.

Status: Hearing postponed by the Assembly Human Services Committee.

This bill would require CDSS, by January 1, 2021, to establish a statewide hotline as the entry point for a Family Urgent Response System to respond to calls from caregivers or current or former foster children or youth when a crisis arises. The bill would require CDSS to ensure that identified, aggregated data is collected regarding individuals served through the hotline and would require CDSS to publish a report on the department's internet website by January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter. This bill would also require, by January 1, 2021, county child welfare, probation, and behavioral health agencies to establish a joint county-based Family Urgent Response System that includes a mobile response and stabilization team to provide stabilization services for caregivers and current or former foster children or youth who are experiencing a crisis. This bill would require the county agencies to submit a single, coordinated plan to CDSS, by November 1, 2020, describing how the system would meet specified requirements. Additionally, this bill would authorize those county agencies to implement these provisions on a per-county basis or by collaborating with other counties to establish regional, cross-county Family Urgent Response Systems.

AB-1061 (Gipson) - Foster care.

Status: Chapter 817, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires a probation officer, as is required in current law of a placing agency or social worker, to develop and implement a strategy to preserve an existing placement of a probation-supervised foster youth, in consultation with the youth's CFT, prior to making

changes to a youth's placement. This bill requires this strategy, known as the placement preservation strategy, to be included in the foster youth's case notes. This bill also requires a probation officer, if that officer finds that a foster care placement change is necessary after implementation of the placement preservation strategy, to serve written notice to a youth's parent or guardian, caregiver, attorney, and, if the youth is at least 10 years old, the youth, at least 14 days before the placement change. This bill also expands the prohibition existing in current law on any placement change taking place between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. to include probation-supervised foster care placements, and allows certain exemptions to this prohibition. This bill also includes complaints regarding the placement change of a probation-supervised foster youth in the requirement that the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson, if certain conditions are met, provide the findings of an investigation to the county child welfare director or chief probation officer, or their designee, for purposes of training, technical assistance, and quality improvement. This bill also authorizes a probation officer to change a youth's foster care placement without meeting the requirements set forth by the provisions of the bill and current law in certain circumstances. Finally, this bill stipulates that the provisions of the bill do not apply to a foster youth for whom the juvenile court has entered into a judgment and for whom probation has removed from the placement.

AB-1068 (Cooley) - Juveniles: dependency: child and family teams.

Status: Chapter 780, Statutes of 2019

This bill codifies the definition of "CFT meeting" as a convening of all or some members of the child and family team, and specifies that a CFT meeting may be requested by any member of the CFT. This bill also allows, if the county has produced a summary report or an action plan of the CFT for use by the team members, a copy of the summary report or action plan with any necessary redactions, to be attached to certain reports made to the court by social workers or court-appointed child advocates, and certain supplemental reports made to the court. This bill also requires the youth's court-appointed educational rights holder, if other than the parent, guardian, or caregiver, be invited to a CFT meeting if: the CFT will develop and implement a placement preservation strategy; or, the CFT will discuss a placement change. This bill also requires a CFT to discuss if remaining in the child's school of origin is in the child's best interests, and also requires a CFT, in consultation with the foster care educational liaison, and if the child's educational rights holder determines that remaining in, or returning to, the child's school of origin is in the child's best interest, to determine an appropriate transportation plan for the child to attend their school of origin as well as any available extracurricular activities.

AB-1114 (Aguiar-Curry) - Crisis nurseries: study.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require CDSS to implement a two-year pilot project in Contra Costa, Nevada, Sacramento, and Yolo Counties in order to evaluate the effectiveness of crisis nurseries in lowering the incidence of child abuse in those counties. This bill would require the pilot project to consist of CDSS conducting a study of the rate at which families in the pilot project counties access respite services and of the relationship between crisis respite care and a number of children and family outcomes. This bill would also require CDSS to report the results of the study to the Legislature on or before June 15, 2022. The provisions of this bill would also sunset as of January 1, 2023, after which the provisions of the bill would be repealed.

AB-1221 (Cooley) - Children's advocacy centers.

Status: Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have allowed a county to utilize a Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) to implement a coordinated, multidisciplinary response to investigate reports involving child physical or sexual abuse, exploitation, or maltreatment. This bill also would have required CACs utilized by counties to comply with certain standards, including: have a designated legal entity responsible for the governance of its operations for purposes of overseeing the CAC's business practices; use written protocols for case review and case review procedures; verify that members of a multidisciplinary team who are responsible for mental health services are trained in and deliver trauma-focused, evidence-supported mental health treatments, among others. This bill would have also deemed the files, reports, records, communications, and working papers used or developed in providing services through a CAC as confidential, and further, would have specified that those documents are not public records.

AB-1235 (Chu) - Homeless youth prevention centers.

Status: Chapter 341, Statutes of 2019

This bill revises the community care facility category of "runaway and homeless youth shelter" by: renaming this category the "homeless youth prevention center; expanding eligibility to receive shelter services at these facilities to include youth who are at risk of homelessness and youth who are exhibiting status offender behavior; and, extending from 21 to 90 consecutive days the maximum length of time such a facility can offer 24-hour nonmedical care and supervision and personal services to youth who voluntarily enter the facility. This bill would also define "youth at risk of homelessness" to mean a youth between the ages of 12 and 17 (or 18, if the youth is completing high school or its equivalent), to whom certain circumstances apply, including, but not limited to: financial stress; relationship or family breakdown; or domestic and family violence, among others. This bill would also define "youth exhibiting status offender behavior" to mean a youth between the ages of 12 and 17 (or 18, if the youth is completing high school or its equivalent), who either: persistently or habitually refuses to obey the reasonable and proper orders or directions of their parents, guardian, or custodian; is beyond the control of their parents, guardian, or custodian; or, violates an ordinance of a city or county establishing a curfew based solely on age.

AB-1301 (Cooley) - Child welfare: adoption.

Status: Chapter 827, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires, beginning July 1, 2020, county child welfare agencies to compensate licensed private adoption agencies for adoption services for the placement of children or nonminor dependents eligible for the AAP. This bill also prohibits reimbursement to be authorized for private adoption agencies for intercountry adoption services. This bill also establishes that, effective July 1, 2020, the reimbursement rate for children adopted from families approved by dually licensed private nonprofit foster family and adoption agencies is \$8,000 and, for all other children, is \$6,600. Finally, this bill allows counties to utilize certain unspent funds for additional activities related to permanency.

AB-1324 (Levine) - Foster children: immigration counsel.

Status: Referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would require CDSS, subject to the availability of funding, to contract with qualified nonprofit legal services organizations to provide legal services to undocumented immigrants who are dependent children or NMDs or who are the subject of an order for out-of-home placement through the juvenile court, and subjects nonprofit legal services organizations to whom a contract is awarded to meet certain requirements, including: have at least three years of experience handling special immigrant juvenile status cases and have represented at least 25 individuals in immigration related matters, and have at least three years of experience representing minors in dependency cases and have access to training and technical support on immigration matters. This bill would also require a placing agency, when it becomes aware that a dependent child or NMD is an undocumented immigrant, to notify the dependent child's or nonminor's attorney that the youth is an undocumented immigrant, and, further, would require electronic or telephonic notice to be provided to the attorney within 72 hours of learning of the youth's immigration status.

AB-1450 (Lackey) - Child abuse reporting: cross-reporting among local agencies.

Status: Failed passage in the Assembly Public Safety Committee. Reconsideration was granted.

This bill would establish "Gabriel's Law" which would, by January 1, 2030, require every county to establish an on-line database for specified agencies to track the reporting of substantiated allegations of child abuse and neglect. Amongst other things, this bill would state that the database must reflect a real time, Web-based information sharing system that allows rapid and secure electronic transmission and receipt of mandated cross-reports, ensuring that the proper agencies receive the report and provide a detailed history of past incidents of abuse entered into the system by child and family welfare agencies. This bill would require each county to develop policies and procedures for entering, reviewing, and purging information in the database, criteria for substantiating reports, and retention periods for information. This bill would require each county to develop a process for an individual to petition to have his or her name removed from the database if the report against the individual is found to be unsubstantiated. Additionally, this bill would state that these provisions do not relieve entities from the duty to submit substantiated reports of abuse and neglect to the Child Abuse Central Index maintained by the Department of Justice.

SB-219 (Wilk) - Foster youth: enrichment activities.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require CDSS to allocate funds for the pilot program to two urban and two rural county child welfare agencies that submit a two-year plan via a request for proposal developed by CDSS. This bill would require CDSS to allocate \$500 for each child or youth in foster care on March 31, 2020, in a pilot county for each year of the two-year pilot and would stipulate that if the total resulting allocation for the four pilot counties exceeds \$12.5 million, CDSS shall distribute \$12.5 million proportionately among the pilot counties based on the number of children and youth in care on March 31, 2020. This bill would require a child welfare agency to indicate its interest in participating in the pilot program by

submitting a two-year plan by May 1, 2020; the two-year plan would be required to be developed in consultation with foster youth, resource parents, and other interested community parties and would include specified information. This bill would require a pilot county to submit annually to CDSS data on the number of applications received, the number of grants awarded, activities, and directly related costs the grants were used to fund. This bill would also require CDSS, by October 1, 2022, to submit a report to the Legislature containing the data submitted by participating counties.

Community Care Licensing

AB-367 (Flora) - Presence at care facilities: conviction of crimes.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee and awaiting a hearing.

This bill would include certain crimes, including: spousal rape where the person is prevented from resisting by any intoxicating or anesthetic substance, the person is at the time unconscious of the nature of the act, including if the victim is asleep, or, the act is accomplished against the victim's will by threatening to use the authority of a public official to incarcerate, arrest, or deport the victim; pimping (not of a minor); pandering (not of a minor); and, identity theft, in the existing list of crimes for which a criminal record exemption may not be granted for purposes of licensure, permitting, certification, employment, volunteering, residence, or presence in certain community care facilities, Residential Care Facilities for Persons with Chronic Life-Threatening Illness, RCFEs, and child day care facilities.

AB-447 (Patterson) - Care facilities: criminal record clearances.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require CDSS, until an automated system exists to track changes in facility associations, to permit a licensee who operates more than one community care facility of the same facility type to transfer an individual's current criminal record clearance to one or more facilities of the same facility type operated by the licensee, or designate one facility as the central administrative facility to which individuals with a current criminal record clearance are associated. This bill would also prohibit certain exemptions from criminal background clearance requirements from applying to any individual associated at a facility, and would require CDSS 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 also require a licensee, or an individual on behalf of a licensee, to be available to CDSS to identify the current work location of all cleared and exempted individuals employed by the licensee. Finally, this bill would create a process by which facility associations may be updated.

AB-737 (Eggman) - Residential care facilities for the elderly: licensing and regulation.

Status: Chapter 180, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires entities, and agents signing on behalf of entities, to supply the same evidence and information required to be supplied by individuals who are applying for a RCFE license. This bill requires a RCFE applicant to, at CDSS's request, provide or cause to be provided any additional information pertaining to the consideration of the application

regarding any entity that is an applicant or holds a beneficial ownership interest of 10% or more.

AB-1034 (Friedman) - Health and care facilities: emergency and disaster plan.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require community care facilities that serve children or NMDs, resource families, certified or licensed foster family homes, small family homes, community care facilities that serve adults, residential care facilities for persons with chronic life-threatening illness, and childcare centers to have emergency and disaster plans enumerating emergency procedures, and contact information for emergency response personnel, among other components. This bill would also require a community care facility that serves adults to conduct a quarterly drill for each shift, with the type of emergency covered in the drill varying from quarter to quarter, to include an evacuation drill involving residents at least once per year, and would further require the drills to be documented. This bill would also require a residential community care facility for persons with chronic life-threatening illness (RCFCLTI) to conduct a quarterly drill for each shift, with the type of emergency covered in the drill varying from quarter to quarter, not to require actual evacuation of residents, and, further, would require the drills to be documented. This bill would also require an applicant seeking a license for a new community care facility that serves adults, or a new RCFCLTI to submit the emergency and disaster plan with the initial license application, and further, would require CDSS's CCLD to confirm, during annual licensing visits, that the emergency and disaster plan on file at a community care facility that serves adults or at a RCFCLTI includes the required content.

AB-1608 (Holden) - Community care facilities: criminal background checks.

Status: Hearing postponed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

This bill would prohibit CDSS from requiring an applicant for a license to operate a community care facility to self-disclose their criminal history information, and would require CDSS to post on its internet website and make publicly available certain information for each year, including: the total number of applicants who applied for initial certification; the number of applicants who were denied, approved, and approved without restrictions; and, the stated reason(s) for denying a criminal record exemption, or granting an exemption with restrictions, and whether those reasons are a result of the type of crime committed, a rehabilitation evaluation, or the client or facility type, among other things. This bill would also require CDSS to collect certain information about individuals subject to the criminal background check process, including: the number of criminal record exemption requests received by CDSS and how many requests were approved or denied; the crimes for which exemptions were approved or denied; and the demographic data of individuals who received or did not receive exemptions, among others. This bill would also require CDSS to examine and review the collected data, and, no later than January 1, 2022, issue a report with its findings. This bill would also require CDSS to establish a process to grant a simplified criminal record exemption to an applicant for a license or special permit to operate or manage a community care facility and for individuals subject to the criminal record clearance process. This bill would also require CDSS to consider granting simplified criminal record exemptions only to individuals who meet certain criteria related to the frequency and nature of the criminal activity and convictions. Finally, this bill would permit CDSS to require, at its discretion, an individual who is otherwise eligible for a simplified exemption pursuant to the provisions of the bill, to complete the standard exemption

process if CDSS determines that completing the standard exemption process will protect the health and safety of children and adults placed in community care facilities.

AB-1766 (Bloom) - Licensed adult residential facilities and residential care facilities for the elderly: data collection: severe mental illness.

Status: Referred to the Senate Human Services Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would require CDSS to collect and publicly report data related to the population of individuals with a serious mental disorder living in certain types of community care facilities for the elderly. This bill would require CDSS to collect data collection on whether the facility accepts residents paying the SSI rate, whether the facility accepts residents with a serious mental disorder, whether the facility is a regional center vendor, the number of individuals with a serious mental disorder residing in each facility, the referral sources for all newly admitted residents with a serious mental disorder, the destination for former residents with a serious mental disorder, and the average length of stay for residents with a serious mental disorder. This bill would require CDSS to publicly report the data collected through its internet website on the annual facility evaluation report, and on the department's website in a searchable format. Additionally, the bill would require CDSS to report quarterly on the number of licensed residential facilities that primarily serve low-income residents that closed permanently in the prior quarter.

AB-1796 (Levine) - Community care facilities: criminal background checks.

Status: Hearing postponed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

This bill would repeal the ability of CDSS to issue a license to operate or provide direct care services in a community care facility when an applicant meets all other conditions for licensure, except for receipt of pending Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal offender record information, and the individual has signed and submitted a statement that they have never been convicted of a crime in the United States. This bill would also prohibits CDSS from granting a criminal record clearance or exemption until it receives an individual's complete state and federal criminal record from the Department of Justice.

SB-172 (Portantino) - Firearms.

Status: Chapter 840, Statutes of 2019

This bill broadens criminal storage crimes, adds criminal storage offenses to those offenses that can trigger a 10-year firearm ban, creates an exemption to firearm loan requirements for the purposes of preventing suicide. This bill imposes rules related to firearm and ammunition storage and reporting at RCFEs, and requires CDSS to promulgate regulations regarding storage at RCFEs.

Developmental Services

AB-192 (Mathis) - California Integrated Community Living Program.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would create the "California Integrated Community Living Program" (Program) within DDS to provide deferred payment loans to finance the capital costs of permanent, supportive housing for regional center clients. This bill would also create the "Integrated Community Living Program Fund" (Fund) within the State Treasury, and would

continuously appropriate moneys in the fund to DDS to be used for the acquisition, design, construction, rehabilitation, or preservation of permanent supportive housing for regional center clients. This bill would also require DDS and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to enter into an interagency agreement for purposes of administering the Fund. This bill would also require DDS to convene an advisory committee consisting of stakeholders and interest groups to advise and assist in establishing funding priorities for the Program. This bill would also require DDS, in consultation with HCD, to develop and administer a competitive application process to award funding for loans to be used for purposes related to permanent, supportive housing for regional center clients. This bill would also require DDS, in consultation with HCD, to adopt guidelines establishing income and rent standards for potential residents of properties funded through the provisions of the bill.

AB-261 (Mathis) - Developmental services: regional centers: suspension of services.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would repeal the prohibition on a regional center's ability to purchase camping services and associated travel expenses, as well as social recreation activities, except for activities vendored as community-based day programs.

AB-311 (Frazier) - Regional centers: billing: daily rates.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would repeal the requirement that activity centers, adult development centers, behavior management programs, and other look-alike day programs bill regional centers for services in terms of half and full days of service.

AB-438 (Frazier) - Regional center services: holidays.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would delete the current-law prohibition on regional centers compensating certain vendors for providing any services to a consumer on 14 stipulated days. This bill would delete the current-law prohibition on regional centers compensating certain transportation service providers for transporting any consumer to receive services from any of the vendors required to observe the uniform holidays on any of those holidays. This bill would also delete provisions of current law regarding the administration of, and exceptions to, the uniform holiday schedule, including designation of an alternate holiday when a uniform holiday falls on the weekend, the requirement for contracts between affected vendors and regional centers to reflect the holiday closures, and the ability of the DDS to adjust the uniform holiday schedule through a program directives.

AB-439 (Mark Stone) - Juveniles: competency.

Status: Chapter 161, Statutes of 2019

This bill clarifies current statute regarding permissible and appropriate placements for minors subject to juvenile proceedings who are found to be incompetent. This bill deletes language prohibiting provisions of current law pertaining to the competency of a minor who is subject to juvenile proceedings from being interpreted as authorizing or requiring the placement of a minor who is found to be incompetent in a developmental center or community facility operated by DDS without a determination by a regional center director, or his or her designee, that the minor has a developmental disability and is eligible for

services under the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act. This bill removes developmental centers from the list of appropriate alternatives to juvenile hall confinement that the court may consider for minors found to be incompetent. This bill states that, in order to provide clarity and provide for the proper placement of juveniles, this bill is an urgency statute, thereby requiring it to go into effect immediately.

AB-536 (Frazier) - Developmental services.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would expand eligibility for regional center services to certain individuals by increasing the maximum age of onset for a developmental disability from 18 to 22 years of age.

AB-627 (Frazier) - Developmental services: regional centers.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require the director of DDS, in order to ensure accessibility of services for individuals with developmental disabilities, to identify regional centers that are in need of one or more satellite offices because barriers to access may exist in the catchment area. This bill would require the director of DDS, by July 1, 2020, to consult with each regional center identified as in need of a satellite office or offices to determine an appropriate location for each office and require locations to be selected based on an identified need to provide greater accessibility to services and a better quality of care for individuals with developmental disabilities who reside in areas with barriers to access. This bill would require a regional center identified as in need of a satellite office to inform the public of its plans to open that office. This bill would also require a regional center that opens one or more satellite offices, by July 1, 2021, to offer services to individuals with developmental disabilities at each satellite office and authorize a satellite office to offer limited services based on the needs of individuals eligible for services

AB-641 (Frazier) - Developmental services: integrated competitive employment.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would allow certain consumers with integrated employment as a goal of their IPP to request tailored day services in order to meet integrated employment goals, and would allow 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 also require 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 also delete the requirement that the DDS establish a four-year pilot project to determine whether community-based vocational development services increase integrated competitive employment outcomes and would make certain components of that pilot applicable statewide.

AB-812 (Frazier) - Developmental services: Inspector General.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require CHHS, on or before July 1, 2020, to convene a working group to examine topics related to oversight and accountability of the developmental services

system, including, but not limited to: existing oversight structures for DDS and regional centers; the purview, duties, and effectiveness of existing oversight structures; and, any gaps in the purview and duties of existing oversight structures, among other topics. This bill would also require the working group to include consumers and consumer representatives, as well as representatives of DDS, regional centers, the state's protection and advocacy agency, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, California State Auditor's Office, and the State Controller's Office. This bill would also require DDS, on or before, January 1, 2021, to report to the Legislature any findings and policy recommendations resulting from the working group's examination.

AB-813 (Frazier) - Developmental services: alternative dispute resolution.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would establish within DDS the "Developmental Disabilities Dispute Resolution Advisory Council" (Council), and would require the Council to consist of seven individuals who reflect the racial, ethnic, sexual, and geographic diversity of California. This bill would also require regional centers to establish a dispute resolution program to serve regional center consumers with the purpose of hearing and deciding disputes between regional center consumers regarding the provision of services and eligibility for services. This bill would also allow DDS to establish a grant program to provide funding to regional centers to establish dispute resolution programs, and would prohibit a regional center from being eligible to receive grant funding unless certain criteria is met. This bill would also require the Council to adopt rules, regulations, and temporary standards to implement the provisions of the bill.

AB-823 (Arambula) - Developmental services.

Status: Hearing postponed by the Assembly Human Services Committee.

This bill would include mobile crisis services and paid employment for service providers as a means for which DDS is authorized to establish guidance for the utilization of community placement funds. This bill would also delete certain requirements of current law related to average service coordinator to consumer ratio for consumers with complex needs. This bill would also require each regional center to contract for mobile crisis services to ensure that consumers are able to remain in the least restrictive environment. This bill would also require each regional center to post on its internet website a MOU developed between a regional center and a county mental health agency to increase continuity of services and improve quality of mental health outcomes for certain individuals, among other goals. This bill would also require each regional center to post on its internet website a list of crisis intervention services, providers, and their availability, including mobile crisis, emergency housing, and behavioral intervention.

AB-1199 (Petrie-Norris) - State property: Fairview Developmental Center.

Status: Chapter 824, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires the Department of General Services (DGS), if any land within the grounds of the Fairview Developmental Center is reported as excess and DGS determines that the land is needed by more than one state agency, to conduct a public hearing to receive public input regarding the use of the land prior to transferring it to any state agency, as required by processes enumerated in current law.

AB-1295 (Quirk-Silva) - Temporary housing and supportive services program.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require CHHS, in consultation with stakeholders, in order to assist individuals with severe mental illness who require housing and other supportive services, to operate at the site of the Fairview Developmental Center (DC), upon its closure, a temporary housing program for individuals with severe mental illness who are experiencing homelessness. Further, this bill would require the temporary housing program to meet certain requirements, including: cease to operate on December 31, 2025; accommodate up to 200 individuals; provide program participants with housing and supportive services, such as mental health services and health care services; and, have intake and selection processes that prioritize the needs of individuals with severe mental illness who have experienced or are experiencing chronic homelessness. This bill would also require CHHS to develop a plan to quickly transition the site of the former DC to use by the temporary housing program upon closure of the DC, and would require the plan to be submitted to the Legislature. Finally, the provisions of the bill would sunset on January 1, 2026.

AB-1643 (Eduardo Garcia) - Developmental services.

Status: Referred to eth Senate Human Services Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would delete language that requires a service agency to provide adequate notice to an applicant for, or recipient of, services and their authorized representative in instances where certain decisions, as specified, are made without the mutual consent of the service recipient or their authorized representative, and would instead require a service agency to provide adequate notice to the applicant or recipient and their authorized representative regardless of whether the decision is made without the mutual consent of the individual or their authorized representative.

SB-398 (Durazo) - Protection and advocacy agency.

Status: Chapter 548, Statutes of 2019

This bill adopts changes that conform to federal law, regulation, and guidance as they relate to the role and authority of the state's protection and advocacy (P&A) agency to ensure the rights and safety of individuals with disabilities. This bill modifies certain definitions related to the authority of the P&A agency, makes changes to the scope of the P&A agency's authority to protect and advocate for the rights of individuals with disabilities, and makes changes related to the ability of the P&A agency to access records of individuals with disabilities.

SB-412 (Stone) - Developmental services: fees.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would repeal the Family Cost Participation Program (FCPP) by deleting provisions of current law that establish the FCPP within DDS for purposes of assessing a cost participation to parents who have a child with a developmental disability or is eligible for services under the California Early Intervention Services Act. This bill would also delete the requirement that a regional center assess an annual family program fee by deleting provisions of current law that require, beginning on July 1, 2011, a regional center to assess an annual family program fee from parents whose adjusted gross family income is at or above 400% of the federal poverty level based upon family size, and who have a child to

whom the following conditions apply: the child has a developmental disability or is eligible for services under the California Early Intervention Services Act; the child is less than 18 years of age; the child lives with their parent; the child or family receives services beyond eligibility determination, needs assessment, and service coordination; and, the child does not receive services through the Medi-Cal program.

SB-683 (Grove) - Developmental services: regional centers.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require DDS, by July 1, 2020, and in consultation with stakeholders, to determine the most appropriate machine-readable format to be used by DDS and regional centers when disclosing numeric data to the public. This bill would also require, by January 1, 2021, DDS and regional centers to provide all numeric data disclosed to the public in the format chosen by DDS and stakeholders, as required by the provisions of the bill. This bill would also requires DDS, by July 1, 2020, to develop, provide to regional centers, and post on its internet website, transparency guidelines for disclosing information, and, further, would require by January 1, 2021, each regional center to include a public disclosures menu on its internet website consistent the transparency guidelines.

Homelessness

AB-307 (Reyes) - Homeless youth: grant program.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (Council), subject to the availability of funding, to develop and administer a grant program to support young people experiencing homelessness, and would also require the Council to complete various tasks related to the administration of the program, including, but not limited to, soliciting annual progress reports from each grant recipient and collect and report on certain data, among others. This bill would also deem certain CoC entities and private, nonprofit agencies as eligible to apply for a grant, and would enumerate the criteria with which these entities must comply in order to be eligible to receive grants. This bill would also give preference in the awarding of grants to entities that participate in a local CoC, utilize the Homeless Management Information System, and are involved in a network of youth-serving agencies. This bill would also specify that no more than 40% of the grant funds received by a recipient each year may be used to establish, expand or operate a shelter program. This bill would also stipulate that the receipt of housing or supportive services pursuant to the provisions of the bill does not constitute the provision of support to a minor for the purpose of determining whether a minor has been left without any provision of support. This bill would also prohibit the receipt of services from preventing a minor from being adjudged a dependent of the court, as defined in current law.

AB-728 (Santiago) - Homeless multidisciplinary personnel teams.

Status: Chapter 337, Statutes of 2019

This bill establishes, until January 1, 2025, a pilot program in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Clara, and Ventura counties that allows homeless adult and family MDTs established in these counties to have the goal of facilitating expedited identification, assessment, and linkage of individuals at risk of homelessness to housing and supportive services, and the goal of facilitating the expedited

prevention of homelessness for those individuals. This bill also expands the scope of a MDT to allow team members to access information for purposes of coordinating housing and supportive services to ensure continuity of care, and would include case managers or case coordinators responsible for referral linkage, or coordination of care and services provided to adults or families among the individuals who may be included on a homeless adult and family MDT.

In-Home Supportive Services and Home Care Services

AB-229 (Nazarian) - In-home supportive services: written content translation.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would make a number of Legislative findings and declarations related to the importance of the IHSS program and the importance of materials to be translated into languages spoken by a substantial number of providers. This bill would define “written content” to include, but not be limited to, any required informational notice, notice of action, timesheet, or form intended for IHSS providers. This bill would require CDSS, for all written content to be mailed to, and all written content and transcriptions or captioning of videos that are intended to be electronically viewed by IHSS providers, to provide translations of the content in state-level threshold languages. This bill would authorize CDSS to work with counties and the County Welfare Directors Association to repurpose existing county-produced translations of written content and video transcriptions or captioning.

AB-426 (Maienschein) - In-Home Supportive Services program.

Status: Chapter 424, Statutes of 2019

This bill prohibits a licensed health care professional from charging a fee for the completion of the medical certification form that is required to be eligible for IHSS.

AB-924 (Voepel) - In-home supportive services.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would, in regard to IHSS, make changes to the assessment for a recipient's continuing need for IHSS and to payroll periods. This bill would require county welfare departments to measure each recipient’s continuing need for supportive services on a weekly basis rather than a monthly basis and would specify that a “payroll period” means two workweeks.

Miscellaneous

AB-1136 (Nazarian) - California Department of Community Living.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would establish the "California Department of Community Living" within the CHHS, and would require the California Department of Community Living to: consolidate leadership on issues and programs serving California's older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers; provide leadership, policy development, and technical assistance to programs within its jurisdiction and advocate across state departments for

the needs of older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers; and, establish a “No Wrong Door System” in order to assist older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers in obtaining information on and timely referral to appropriate community long-term services and supports, among other duties. This bill would also require the timeline and implementation provisions for the Department of Community Living to be further established, as appropriate, as a component for any master plan for aging established by the state.

AB-1287 (Nazarian) - Universal assessments: No Wrong Door system.

Status: Chapter 825, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires the Master Plan for Aging, developed by Executive Order N-14-19, to consider the merits of utilizing a No Wrong Door System for assessing older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers to obtain accurate information and timely referrals to community services and supports. This bill also requires consideration of a universal tool and process that is capable of assessing individual need and determining initial eligibility for long term services and supports.

AB-1336 (Smith) - Child health and safety fund.

Status: Chapter 47, Statutes of 2019

This bill expands the list of child health and safety concerns that a portion of the Child Health and Safety Fund may be used to address to include: pedestrian safety; childhood poisoning, including from prescription medications and other toxic substances; sleep suffocation; children left in parked cars and children run over by cars; and, sports-related concussions, heat stroke, and spinal injury safety.

AB-1379 (Quirk) - Continuing care contracts.

Status: Referred to the Senate Human Services Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would rename the Continuing Care Provider Fee Fund to the Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) Oversight Fund, adopt changes to ensure that the balance in the fund is adequate to fund reasonable regulatory costs related to CCRCs, and revise provisions of current law regarding the CDSS's authority to require a CCRC provider to submit a financial plan in response to the department's identification of problems and deficiencies in need of remediation.

AB-1474 (Wicks) - Community mental health services: vocational rehabilitation systems.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would revise the principles that guide the development of community vocational rehabilitation systems for persons with serious psychiatric disabilities, with respect to staffing, to also state that the staffing patterns should also reflect the age and other demographic characteristics of the community the program serves.

SB-172 (Portantino) - Firearms.

Status: Chapter 840, Statutes of 2019

This bill broadens criminal storage crimes, adds criminal storage offenses to those offenses that can trigger a 10-year firearm ban, creates an exemption to firearm loan requirements

for the purposes of preventing suicide. This bill imposes rules related to firearm and ammunition storage and reporting on RCFEs, and requires CDSS to promulgate regulations regarding storage at RCFEs.

SB-228 (Jackson) - Master Plan on Aging.

Status: Chapter 742, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires the Secretary of CHHS in coordination with the Director of CDA to lead the development and implementation of the Master Plan for Aging, established pursuant to Executive Order N-14-19. This bill requires the Secretary and Director to work with both the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and the Cabinet Workgroup for Aging and specifies the composition of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and the Cabinet Workgroup. This bill specifies the core values to guide the Master Plan including the concepts of equity, addressing the needs of individuals who are aging and those with disabilities; to be person-centered; seek efficiency by reducing duplication and unnecessary costs; achieve system rebalancing by prioritizing home- and community-based services provided in a home setting as alternatives to institutionalization, in accordance with individual needs, desires, and preferences; seek coordination and integration by integrating systems of care; and achieve access to long-term services and supports. This bill requires CDA to report to the Legislature and the Governor by October 1, 2020, on necessary improvements to the department to effectively implement, and to identify the statutory and regulatory changes necessary to implement the Master Plan, and requires CDA to submit annual status updates from October 2021 through October 2030, including updates regarding data metrics, best practices, and model policies.

Public Services and Other Human Services

AB-163 (Cristina Garcia) - Services for unaccompanied undocumented minors: facilities liaison.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require the creation of a facilities liaison position within CDSS's Immigration Services Unit in order to assist certain facilities and families providing care to undocumented immigrant youth with services and supports aimed at ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of those youth. This bill would require the facilities liaison to assist state-licensed group homes, STRTPs, FFAs, and resource families that serve undocumented immigrant youth with appropriate supports and services, to include, but not be limited to, legal services, mental health assessments and services, and public benefits. This bill would require the facilities liaison to: assist in arranging a meeting for identified unaccompanied undocumented minors with a qualified legal services grantee; work to identify available services and supports and connect licensees serving undocumented youth to these services and supports; and, communicate regularly with CDSS's CCLD about any complaints or licensing concerns regarding licensees that house and serve undocumented youth in order to help address any concerns through referral to appropriate services and supports. This bill would require CDSS, in consultation with other state and county agencies that serve undocumented immigrant youth, to develop and issue guidance for counties, licensees, and other providers regarding the provision of appropriate services and supports.

AB-721 (Grayson) - Workforce training programs: supportive services.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB), in partnership with CDSS and the Office of Chancellor of the CCCs to establish and administer the “Lifting Families Out of Poverty Workforce Training Supportive Services Program,” whereby, upon appropriation by the Legislature for this purpose, CWDB is required to make \$50 million in grants available to approved consortia, as defined. This bill would prohibit grants from exceeding \$5,000 per enrolled low-income workforce participant per year. This bill would require CWDB, CDSS, and the Office of the Chancellor of the CCCs to develop criteria, policies, and guidelines for the award of supportive service grant funds, as specified. This bill would require each consortium that has received supportive service grant funds to submit a report to the board containing specified information, and would require CWDB to transmit any reports to CDSS and the Office of the Chancellor of the CCCs. This bill would also require CWDB, within 2 years of implementation of the grant program, to evaluate the efficacy of the program and work with the Employment Development Department to determine the extent to which individuals served by the program are securing employment and achieving income gains, and what barriers remain to achieving these outcomes.

AB-850 (Lackey) - Social workers: student loan repayment program.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would establish and require the Office of Statewide Health Planning (Office) to administer the “California Social Worker Student Loan Repayment Program” (Program) in order to enable an applicant who meets specific eligibility criteria to be eligible to receive a loan repayment award for purposes of repaying student loans. This bill would also require the Office to establish rules and regulations related to the Program, which include provisions related to the period of time for which a loan repayment award shall remain valid, the reallocation of loan repayment awards that are not utilized, and the development of projections for funding purposes. This bill would also establish the “California Social Worker Student Loan Repayment Fund” within the State Treasury, and, upon appropriation, make those funds available for purposes of the Program. This bill would also make the Program operative contingent upon appropriate funding, as determined by the Office, is made available for that purpose by the Legislature or other sources.

AB-870 (Burke) - Public social services.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would require CHHS, in collaboration with specified state agencies and departments to examine the feasibility of establishing a standardized single, accessible application form and process for public assistance programs and supportive services. This bill would require the state agencies and departments to develop MOUs and policies to overcome any identified barriers and would require the entities to implement the standardized single, accessible application form.

AB-1059 (Burke) - Child poverty.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee but not heard at the request of the author.

This bill would extend the operation of the Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2022. This bill would also require the task force to examine the feasibility of developing and codifying the California Poverty Measure and would require the task force to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by January 1, 2021.

AB-1221 (Cooley) - Children’s advocacy centers.

Status: Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have allowed a county to utilize a Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC) to implement a coordinated, multidisciplinary response to investigate reports involving child physical or sexual abuse, exploitation, or maltreatment. This bill also would have required CACs utilized by counties to comply with certain standards, including: have a designated legal entity responsible for the governance of its operations for purposes of overseeing the CAC's business practices; use written protocols for case review and case review procedures; verify that members of a multidisciplinary team who are responsible for mental health services are trained in and deliver trauma-focused, evidence-supported mental health treatments, among others. This bill would have also deemed the files, reports, records, communications, and working papers used or developed in providing services through a CAC as confidential, and further, would have specified that those documents are not public records.

AB-1227 (Oberholte) - Health and human services: information sharing: administrative actions.

Status: Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have changed from permissive to requisite the sharing of information by the CDA, CDPH, DHCS, CDSS, and the Emergency Medical Services Authority regarding individuals or entities who have been the subject of any administrative action resulting in certain outcomes, such as denial, suspension, probation, revocation, or recession of a license, permit, or certificate of approval, or in the exclusion of any person from a facility, certified family home, or resource family home who is subject to a background check. This bill would also change from permissive to requisite the sharing of information by CDSS and county child welfare agencies regarding individuals or entities who have been the subject of any administrative action resulting in certain outcomes, including the denial, suspension, probation, revocation, or recession of a license, permit, or certificate of approval, or in the exclusion of any person from a facility, certified family home, or resource family home who is subject to a background check.

AB-1301 (Cooley) - Child welfare: adoption.

Status: Chapter 827, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires, beginning July 1, 2020, county child welfare agencies to compensate licensed private adoption agencies for adoption services for the placement of children or NMDs eligible for the AAP. This bill also prohibits reimbursement, pursuant to the provisions of the bill, to be authorized for private adoption agencies for intercountry

adoption services. This bill also establishes that, effective July 1, 2020, the reimbursement rate for children adopted from families approved by dually licensed private nonprofit foster family and adoption agencies is \$8,000 and, for all other children, is \$6,600. Finally, this bill allows counties to utilize certain unspent funds for additional activities related to permanency.

AB-1403 (Carrillo) - General assistance: eligibility.

Status: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would require that an individual who is no longer eligible for CalWORKs as a result of the 24-month time limit and who does not have a child under 18 years of age currently living with them as a result of certain conditions, including: a court-ordered custody agreement; placement into foster care by the county child welfare agency, placement by the county probation department, or termination of parental rights by the juvenile court; or placement with a guardian pursuant to an order of the probate or juvenile court, among others, be eligible for general assistance (GA)/general relief (GR). This bill would also require that an individual who is eligible for GA/GR continue to be eligible for aid as long as one or more of the aforementioned conditions continues to exist.

AB-1434 (Kalra) - Public social services: SSI/SSP.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would reinstate the annual SSP cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and would require SSI/SSP maximum aid payments to be at least equal to 100% of the FPL. Specifically, this bill would reinstate the annual COLA to the SSP payment schedules as of January 1, 2020. This bill would require, when any maximum SSI/SSP aid payment provided to an individual is less than 100% of the 2019 FPL for a household of one, the SSP to be increased to bring the maximum SSI/SSP aid payment equal to 100% of the 2019 FPL for a household of one. This bill would require, when any maximum SSI/SSP aid payment provided to a married couple is less than 100% of the 2019 FPL for a household of two, the SSP to be increased to bring the maximum SSI/SSP aid payment equal to 100% of the 2019 FPL for a household of two. Additionally, this bill would state that the provisions of this bill that require the maximum SSI/SSP aid payments to be increased to amounts equal to 100% of the 2019 FPL for a household of one for individuals or a household of two for married couples are not intended to result in a reduction of any payment provided to an individual or married couple that exceeds 100% of the applicable FPL.

AB-1450 (Lackey) - Child abuse reporting: cross-reporting among local agencies.

Status: Failed passage in the Assembly Public Safety Committee. Reconsideration was granted.

This bill would establish “Gabriel’s Law” which would, by January 1, 2030, require every county to establish an on-line database for specified agencies to track the reporting of substantiated allegations of child abuse and neglect. Amongst other things, this bill would state that the database must reflect a real time, Web-based information sharing system that allows rapid and secure electronic transmission and receipt of mandated cross-reports, ensuring that the proper agencies receive the report and provide a detailed history of past incidents of abuse entered into the system by child and family welfare agencies. This bill would require each county to develop policies and procedures for entering, reviewing, and purging information in the database, criteria for substantiating reports, and retention

periods for information. This bill would require each county to develop a process for an individual to petition to have his or her name removed from the database if the report against the individual is found to be unsubstantiated. Additionally, this bill would state that these provisions do not relieve entities from the duty to submit substantiated reports of abuse and neglect to the Child Abuse Central Index maintained by the Department of Justice.

ACR-1 (Bonta) - Immigration: public charges.

Status: Chapter 164, Statutes of 2019

This measure resolves by the Assembly, and the Senate thereof concurring, that the Legislature condemns recently adopted federal regulatory changes related to "public charge" determination for purposes of immigration admissibility and status-adjustment decisions, which undermine the state's critical safety net programs and the well-being of communities; and urges the federal government to reconsider and roll back the changes, which stand to harm the well-being of the state and nation well into the future. This measure resolves that the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

SB-298 (Caballero) - Poverty reduction.

Status: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

This bill would establish, until January 1, 2039, the "End Child Poverty Act of 2020" (Act) to require CDSS to, beginning in 2020 and every 5 years thereafter, measure and report to the Legislature the state child poverty rate promising practices and programs, additional investments or modifications to existing programs that may be needed, and progress toward ending deep child poverty by 2024 and reducing overall child poverty by 50% by 2039. This bill would state Legislative intent in enacting the provisions of this bill to commit to achieve the poverty-reduction goals of the Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force (task force) and that California maintain an effective system for measuring progress towards meeting those goals and, further, states Legislative intent to establish the specific goals of ending deep child poverty by 2024 and reducing overall child poverty by 50% by 2039. This bill would require CDSS, in evaluating California's progress toward reducing child poverty, to develop a methodology that uses, to the extent feasible, benchmarks and data identified by the task force and other childhood indicators shown to be predictive of future adult poverty, as specified.

SB-337 (Skinner) - Child support.

Status: Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have stated Legislative intent to increase the amount of child support payments received and to strengthen family unity between children and their noncustodial parent, thereby improving the health and well-being of low-income children. Effective January 1, 2022, this bill would have exempted from inclusion in the definition of "child support delinquency," to the extent permitted by federal law, an arrearage or otherwise past-due amount that a local child support agency or the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) determines was established in error or has determined to be uncollectible. This bill would have required DCSS, in determining the meaning of "uncollectible" for

purposes of arrearages and otherwise past due amounts owed to the state, to consider a number of factors including, among others, income and assets available to pay the arrearage or otherwise past due amount, source of income including veterans benefits, age of arrearage or otherwise past due amount, and incarceration history. Additionally, effective January 1, 2022, this bill would have raised the CalWORKs child support disregard from the first \$50 per month to the first \$100 per month for a family with one child, or the first \$200 per month for a family with two or more children. The provisions of this bill would have been effective January 1, 2022, or when CDSS notified the Legislature that CalSAWS was able to perform the necessary automation to implement this section, whichever date is later.

SB-436 (Hurtado) - Office of Child Abuse Prevention.

Status: Chapter 476, Statutes of 2019

This bill codifies the definition of a "family resource center" (FRC) as an entity providing family-centered and family-strengthening services that are embedded in communities, culturally sensitive, and include cross-system collaboration to prevent child abuse and neglect. This bill specifies that an FRC may be located in or administered by a variety of entities such as a local education agency, community resource center, or a neighborhood resource center. This bill also includes a representative of a local child abuse prevention council or family strengthening organization, including an FRC, among the entities who may be included on a multidisciplinary team aimed at providing services related to child abuse or neglect. This bill also includes supporting coordination and sharing of best practices implemented by FRCs with other agencies among the purposes for which federal funds administered by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention may be used.

SB-512 (Pan) - Long-term services and supports.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee and awaiting a hearing.

This bill would create within state government the "California Long-Term Services and Supports Benefits Board" (LTSS Board), consisting of nine specified individuals. This bill would create the "California Long-Term Services and Supports Benefits Trust Fund" in the State Treasury and establish requirements including, but not limited to, the management and investment of revenue deposited in the LTSS Trust by the LTSS Board. This bill would create within state government the nine-member "California Long-Term Services and Supports Advisory Committee," which would be required to provide ongoing advice and recommendations to the LTSS Board.

SB-735 (Leyva) - Public social services: accommodation: notification.

Status: Chapter 155, Statutes of 2019

This bill requires SAWS to include a notification to inform the caseworker of an applicant for, or recipient of, public assistance that the individuals have disclosed a disability or experience of domestic violence that may affect their eligibility for certain exemptions from, and exceptions to, any public assistance program in SAWS. This bill also directs CDSS to include questions that permit a public assistance applicant or recipient to disclose a disability, the need for accommodations due to disability, and any experience of domestic violence in any amendment of, or revision to, a form or report that is adopted on or after January 1, 2020, using SAWS.

Governor's Veto Messages

AB-283 (Chu) - CalWORKs: immunizations: truancy.

I am returning Assembly Bill 283 without my signature.

This bill would make several changes to the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program by eliminating penalties associated with school attendance requirements and extending compliance timelines for immunization requirements.

This bill would increase General Fund costs by more than \$10 million annually, a matter that should be considered in the annual budget process.

AB-734 (Maienschein) - Resource families: supportive services pilot program.

I am returning Assembly Bill 734 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Social Services to establish a pilot program in five counties to provide additional supports and services to resource families.

While I appreciate the intent of this bill to improve the ability of resource families to care for the children entrusted to them, I am unable to sign this measure. This proposal should be considered in the context of 2011 realignment which shifted responsibility for child welfare services and foster care to the counties, continued implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform, and the annual budget process.

AB-944 (Quirk) - CalWORKs: sponsored noncitizen: indigence exception.

I am returning Assembly Bill 944 without my signature.

This bill would require counties to annually renew certain eligible sponsored noncitizens' status as "indigent" in order to maintain their eligibility for California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs).

At a time when immigrant populations are repeatedly targeted by the federal government, it is important for California to support its residents. However, this legislation would result in significant General Fund costs, and the proposal should be considered through the state's annual budget process.

AB-1221 (Cooley) - Children's advocacy centers.

I am returning Assembly Bill 1221 without my signature.

This bill would specify requirements for what constitutes a child advocacy center established in counties to coordinate the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases.

While this bill is well-intentioned, it provides overly broad immunity from civil and criminal liability for persons providing services to children and non-offending family members. For example, the measure makes no exceptions when a service provider acted with malice, gross negligence or in bad faith, or has been criminally charged with, or is suspected of, abusing or neglecting the child who is the subject of the investigation or services provided.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

AB-1227 (Oberholte) - Health and human services: information sharing: administrative actions.

I am returning Assembly Bill 1227 without my signature.

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

This bill is not needed because these entities are already sharing such information as authorized under current law.

SB-337 (Skinner) - Child support.

I am returning Senate Bill 337 without my signature:

Senate Bill 337 would increase the amount of child support passed through to families receiving California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) assistance.

Reducing child poverty across our state is a key priority for me. To this end, in 2019 we have increased CalWORKs grants by almost 25 percent, increased the amount of earnings families on CalWORKs can retain every month from \$225 to \$600, and increased the level of savings and the value of the car families can have and qualify for CalWORKs. We also increased and expanded California's Earned Income Tax Credit to \$1 billion annually,

including an increase of \$1,000 in the credit for families with children under the age of 6.

While I am supportive of increasing the amount of child support passed through to families on CalWORKs, such an increase would have a General Fund impact of tens of millions of dollars annually, thus it should be considered as part of the budget process.

SB-365 (Durazo) - CalWORKs: immediate needs assistance.

I am returning Senate Bill 365 without my signature.

This bill would require a California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) applicant to be provided with immediate child care assistance in order to attend work, education, or training.

Lack of access to child care can create a significant barrier to obtaining and maintaining employment. While I support this bill's efforts to increase access to child care and to that end included significant improvements to CalWORKs child care programs in this year's budget, I cannot support SB 365 as it will increase costs by millions of dollars and lead to the provision of services to families ineligible for CalWORKs.

Oversight and Informational Hearings

2019 Hearings:

Homelessness: The purpose of this Joint Informational Hearing was to provide members of the Legislature, staff and the public with an overview of state, federal, and local resources to address homelessness and identify opportunities to improve the state's response to homelessness. (January 23, 2019)

Presumptive Transfer: The Informational Hearing focused on "presumptive transfer," a process adopted by AB 1299 (Ridley-Thomas), Chapter 603, Statutes of 2016. Presumptive transfer requires responsibility for the provision or arrangement of specialty mental health services for a foster youth to promptly transfer from the youth's county of original jurisdiction to the county in which the foster youth resides, unless an exemption is allowed. Through this hearing, the Committee sought to offer an overview of out-of-county placements of foster youth; provision of and funding for mental health services for foster youth; and implementation of presumptive transfer, any negative consequences resulting from implementation, and options for preventing or ameliorating those consequences. (February 26, 2019)

2020-21 Community Services Block Grant State Plan: The purpose of this Joint Oversight Hearing with the Senate Human Services Committee was to update the Legislature on the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provides federal dollars to states to address and alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty across California's communities. By working with local eligible entities, CSBG funds are utilized to provide community-level anti-poverty services and promote self-sufficiency among the individuals eligible to receive services.

Hearing materials may be found on the Committee's website at:
<http://ahum.assembly.ca.gov/publications>.