

Assembly Committee on Human Services

2015-2016

Legislative Bill Summary



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**ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
SUSAN BONILLA, CHAIR**

2015-2016 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. In the 2015-16 Legislative Session, 154 bills were referred to and maintained by the Committee, 77 were passed by the Legislature, and 58 became law.

A complete summary of bills referred to the Human Services Committee in the 2015-16 session follows.

CALFRESH

AB 608 (Gordon) CalFresh: school meals
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have declared the intent of the Legislature to reduce opportunities for children to go hungry by requiring increased coordination between CalFresh and child nutrition programs administered by the California Department of Education and would have added specific information about school-based nutrition programs and other programs intended to serve children to the information counties are required to provide to households applying for CalFresh benefits. This bill also would have required the Department of Social Services to inform all CalFresh households annually, prior to the end of the school year, about the summer meal program.

AB 1747 (Weber) Food assistance: higher education students
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 290, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires a public or private postsecondary education institution located in a county that participates in the Restaurant Meals Program to increase access to and provide information about the program. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services to act as the state entity for receipt of federal reimbursement on behalf of an organization, institution, or agency that secures funds for CalFresh outreach activities. This bill creates the Public Higher Education Pantry Assistance

Program Account in the Emergency Food Assistance Program Fund in order to distribute food to low-income households and allocates account funds.

AB 1770 (Alejo) Food assistance program: eligibility
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have extended eligibility for nutrition assistance under the California Food Assistance Program to all noncitizens who were lawfully present in the United States, provided that they met all other eligibility requirements.

AB 2054 (Thurmond) Nutrition assistance: Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have required the California Health and Human Services Agency to designate an appropriate agency or agencies to design and implement the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children in order to deliver nutrition assistance to children who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals during periods when school is not in session. This bill would have required designated agencies to request or apply for the necessary federal approval or authorization to implement the Summer Electronic Benefits Program, and would have made implementation of the program contingent upon federal funding.

AB 2057 (Mark Stone) CalFresh: victims of domestic violence
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 859, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to develop information on and provide expedited services for CalFresh benefits for victims of domestic violence and to make such information available to domestic violence shelters. This bill also requires that a resident of, or an individual on a waiting list to get into, a shelter for battered women and children, who is otherwise eligible, be entitled to expedited services of an additional allotment of CalFresh benefits as a separate household. This bill also exempts victims of domestic violence from participation in the CalFresh Employment and Training program.

AJR 35 (Brown) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Res. Chapter 113, Statutes of 2016

This resolution memorializes the California Legislature's request to the federal government in order to enable California to equitably end the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program cash-out policy in such a way as to maximize benefits and participation while at the same time mitigating or eliminating harm to those households that would currently be detrimentally impacted by ending the policy.

SB 1232 (Leno) CalWORKs and CalFresh: eligibility determinations
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 308, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires counties that use information contained in consumer credit reports to determine eligibility or benefit amounts for CalWORKs or CalFresh to acquire written authorization from the applicant or recipient prior to obtaining the credit report, and to provide certain information to

SB 1232 (Leno) (continued)

applicants and recipients who have an adverse action taken against them based, in whole or part, on information contained in the credit report. This bill also prohibits counties from requiring applicants or recipients to submit hard-copy documentation that is duplicative of the information verified using the credit report.

**CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS
(CalWORKs)**

AB 371 (Mullin) CalWORKs: Family Unity Act of 2015

Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have established the CalWORKs Family Unity Act of 2015, which would have deleted, as of July 1, 2016, the prohibition on providing CalWORKs aid to an otherwise eligible assistance unit with two parents if the primary wage earner had worked more than 100 hours in a month, and it would have deleted the child deprivation standard for determining eligibility, which was a standard tied to aid prior to the development of the CalWORKs program.

AB 376 (Lopez) CalWORKs eligibility: immunizations

Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have permitted counties to access an Internet-based computerized information system – the California Immunization Registry – to verify, when possible, immunization of children under the age of six in CalWORKs applicant or recipient families.

AB 423 (Cooley) CalWORKs: relative caregivers

Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have required counties, immediately upon placement of a child in the home of a relative, to initiate an application for CalWORKs benefits on behalf of the child using the shortened CalWORKs application and simplified eligibility standards. This bill would have also required counties, at the same time a CalWORKs application was initiated, to evaluate and approve or deny a relative's home for Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) eligibility and, if the child was found to be ineligible for AFDC-FC, would have required the county to explain the basis for that determination and screen the child for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) eligibility. This bill would have required counties to screen all youth in foster care who were determined to be ineligible for AFDC-FC benefits for possible SSI eligibility. Additionally, this bill would have permitted an approved relative caregiver to receive payments on behalf of a child regardless of whether the child resided outside the county of jurisdiction pursuant to his or her placement, and would have required the county of jurisdiction to be responsible for providing the Approved Relative Caregiver payment to the relative caregiver. This bill also would have entitled a teen parent who was detained or placed in the home of a relative caregiver, and whose child was living in the same home or placement, to an infant supplement.

AB 433 (Chu) Public social services: CalWORKs
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 514, Statutes of 2015

This bill temporarily maintains CalWORKs eligibility and grant level for a recipient parent who experiences the loss of a child by prohibiting the application of a sanction for the grieving parent's failure or refusal to comply with program requirements and by maintaining the family's grant amount during the month in which a child in the CalWORKs assistance unit dies and during the following month. This bill also requires counties to, upon receiving notification of the death of a child in an assistance unit, help a grieving parent access other services and assistance for which he or she might be eligible and provide information to the parent about mental health services.

AB 492 (Gonzalez) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: supportive services
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have provided, as of October 1, 2020, CalWORKs recipient households a fifty dollar per month diaper voucher for every child in the family that was two years of age or younger and was enrolled in child care as a part of the parent's welfare-to-work plan.

AB 702 (Maienschein) CalWORKs: temporary shelter assistance
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have: deleted the requirement that the 16 days of CalWORKs temporary shelter assistance provided to homeless families only be used consecutively, deleted the requirement that a break in the consecutive use of the temporary shelter assistance benefit constitute a permanent exhaustion of the benefit, and allowed an eligible CalWORKs recipient family to receive any portion of the 16 days of temporary shelter assistance at any time while the family was receiving CalWORKs aid and was homeless.

AB 743 (Eggman) CalWORKs: eligibility: work activities
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have ensured that education, training, vocation or rehabilitation benefits, and related allowances provided through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs were not considered income or property for purposes of determining CalWORKs eligibility or grant levels. This bill also would have included study time among classroom, laboratory, and internship activities that meet self-initiated program participation requirements, and would have prohibited programs offered by private colleges from being approved unless a program was either approved or exempted by the appropriate state regulatory agency and was in compliance with all other laws.

AB 1742 (Mark Stone) CalWORKs: eligibility
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have increased the amount of income disregarded when calculating CalWORKs eligibility and aid amounts from \$225 plus 50% of the remaining earned income to \$450 plus 70% of the remaining earned income.

AB 1790 (Weber) CalWORKs: welfare-to work
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have required that an adult CalWORKs recipient who was meeting the minimum average per-week federal welfare-to-work participation requirements was: deemed to be in compliance with state CalWORKs welfare-to work requirements, provided necessary supportive services, and prohibited from being sanctioned if he or she failed or refused to comply with specified CalWORKs program requirements.

AB 1809 (Lopez) CalWORKs eligibility: asset limits
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have repealed the asset limitations for CalWORKs eligibility, thereby eliminating the consideration of an individual's or family's assets as a condition of eligibility for CalWORKs, and also would have adopted conforming changes.

AB 1994 (Lopez) CalED Program
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have created the CalED Program, which would have provided support for eligible CalWORKs participants working to obtain a high school diploma or equivalency certificate. Eligibility for participation in the CalED program would have required participants to: be at least 19 years of age, not possess a high school diploma or its equivalent, and be a participant in the welfare-to-work component of CalWORKs. This bill also would have required counties to arrange for supportive services that a person needs to successfully participate in the CalED program. Participants in the program would have been required to attend an educational program on a full-time basis, maintain adequate progress in the educational program, submit grades, if available, to the county, and participate in another welfare-to-work activity if the participant failed to demonstrate that he or she has made adequate progress in school. Finally, the bill would have provided a one-time supplement of \$500 to a participant who successfully completed high school or an approved general education development test.

AB 2058 (Mayes) CalWORKs: education incentives
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have created the CalWORKs Educational Opportunity and Attainment Program to offer the following education grants to eligible CalWORKs participants who completed certain educational programs: \$100 per month for completion of a high school diploma or its equivalent, \$200 per month for completion of an associate's degree or career technical education program, and \$300 per month for completion of a bachelor's degree. This bill would have required that, in order to be eligible, a recipient had completed an educational program while receiving CalWORKs assistance, and that the education program had been included in a recipient's welfare-to-work plan and offered by an accredited educational institution. This bill also would have prohibited a recipient from continued eligibility for a particular education grant under the program if he or she ceased to

AB 2058 (Mayes) (continued)

receive CalWORKs assistance while receiving the education grant, and then began receiving CalWORKs assistance again in the future. Additionally, this bill would have permanently prohibited a CalWORKs recipient who had committed public assistance fraud or exhausted his or her CalWORKs benefits from eligibility for an education grant.

AB 2062 (Lopez) CalWORKs: income or household composition reporting: benefit redeterminations

Chaptered by the Secretary State, Chapter 795, Statutes of 2016

This bill prohibits the assessment of a CalWORKs overpayment in the month immediately following a reported change if 10-days' notice of change in benefits has not been provided prior to the beginning of that month.

AB 2151 (Chu) CalWORKs: special diet or food preparation needs allowance
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have modified the current CalWORKs allowance for recurring special needs to include food preparation needs and would have adopted a special, diet-related food needs allowance of \$20 per month, or actual verified expenses related to the special, diet-related food needs, whichever was greater, for CalWORKs participants. The allowance would have been provided in the form of a supplemental food benefit once a county received verification from a qualified health care provider that a recipient had a special dietary need caused by a permanent or temporary medical condition other than pregnancy.

AB 2448 (Burke) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: education
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have changed certain CalWORKs requirements regarding permissible welfare-to-work activities in order to facilitate a recipient's completion of a high school equivalency program by: including participation in a high school equivalency program among the list of permissible welfare-to-work activities a CalWORKs participant was required to engage in after orientation and appraisal; stipulating that any month in which a CalWORKs recipient participated in a high school equivalency program was to be prohibited from counting against that recipient's "24-month clock;" permitting a CalWORKs recipient to participate in a high school equivalency program if it was determined during the appraisal that he or she had not yet received his or her high school diploma or its equivalent; and exempting a CalWORKs recipient who was determined to not have yet received his or her high school diploma or its equivalent from having to participate in an assessment prior to, or as a condition of, participation in a high school equivalency program.

AB 2552 (Holden) CalWORKs: relative caregivers
Died in the Senate Human Services Committee

This bill would have, until January 1, 2020, required counties that participate in the Approved Relative Caregiver (ARC) Funding Option Program to pay approved relative caregivers an annual clothing allowance of \$240 for each child eligible for benefits for a cumulative total of three years.

AB 2631 (Santiago) CalWORKs: housing assistance
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have removed the once-in-a-lifetime limit on CalWORKs homeless assistance benefits and extended from 16 days per lifetime to 30 days, per year, the permissible length of time for receipt of temporary shelter assistance.

AB 2877 (Human Services Committee) CalWORKs: rehabilitation services
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 190, Statutes of 2016

This bill includes references to the new State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the California Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program in current provisions related to the CalWORKs program. The bill also states Legislative intent that counties, and permits counties to, inform CalWORKs recipients of certain information and activities in order to maximize a participant's receipt of the state EITC. This bill also makes technical language changes to conform to federal provisions regarding vocational rehabilitation services for individuals with disabilities per the 1998 reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act and the adoption of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act in 2014.

SB 23 (Mitchell) CalWORKs: eligibility
Died on the Assembly Inactive File

This bill would have authorized prospective aid payments for all children in eligible CalWORKs households by repealing the maximum family grant (MFG) or "family cap" rule, which at the time prohibited aid payments for children born into CalWORKs recipient families more than 10 months after aid commenced unless a parent disclosed that a child was born as the result of rape or incest or due to the failure of a particular method of contraception.

SB 947 (Pan) Public assistance: personal interviews
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 798, Statutes of 2016

This bill establishes the County Option of Efficient Interviewing of CalWORKs Applicants Act of 2016 and authorizes a county to conduct the interview of an applicant for CalWORKs via telephone or other electronic means in lieu of an in-person interview, unless otherwise requested by the applicant. This bill also requires a county that elects to conduct interviews telephonically or through other electronic means to include in its county plan a set of procedures for conducting interviews in a manner that ensures that interviewed clients are provided with the same information as clients interviewed in person.

SB 1232 (Leno) CalWORKs and CalFresh: eligibility determinations
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 308, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires counties that use information contained in consumer credit reports in order to determine eligibility or benefit amounts for CalWORKs or CalFresh to acquire written authorization from the applicant or recipient prior to obtaining the credit report, and to provide certain information to applicants and recipients who have an adverse action taken against them based, in whole or part,

AB 1232 (Leno) (continued)

on information contained in the credit report. This bill also prohibits counties from requiring applicants or recipients to submit hard-copy documentation that is duplicative of the information verified using the credit report.

CHILD CARE

AB 188 (Cristina Garcia) Child care: alternative payment providers: reimbursement rates: eligibility requirements

Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have increased the allowable reimbursable amount included in contracts for alternative payment programs for child care by adding 3% to the reimbursement rate, specifically for the purpose of making eligibility determinations, to the allowable reimbursable amount for an alternative payment program contract.

AB 233 (Lopez) Child care and development services: alternative payment programs: reimbursement rates

Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have adopted a 12-month eligibility determination process for subsidized child care and removed and altered certain reporting and administrative requirements. This bill would have allowed an alternative payment provider to implement an altered rate level once per year. This bill also would have allowed contractors to develop a written policy directing parents to pay family fees directly to the child care provider and established requirements related to this process, including requiring the contractor to deduct the amount of the family fee assessed to the parent from the payment to the provider, and would have exempted contractors with such a policy from certain requirements, including having to supply record or proof that the family fee was paid to the provider.

AB 271 (Oberholte) Child care: alternative payment programs and contractors: electronic records: digital signatures

Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 476, Statutes of 2015

This bill expands the authority granted under current law for child care alternative payment programs (APPs) and child care providers to use electronic or other alternative methods for the storage of records. This includes authorizing APPs and child care providers to use digital signatures and to electronically store records that were not originally created in electronic format, provided all processes for electronic generation, signing, and storage of documents are in compliance with state and federal standards, as determined by the California Department of Education.

AB 427 (Weber) Early primary programs: child care services: eligibility: military families

Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have excluded the amount of the basic allowance for housing equal to the lowest rate of the allowance for the military housing area in which an individual resided from income calculations for children of active military personnel when determining eligibility for services under the Child Care and Development Services Act.

AB 445 (Alejo) Child day care facilities: nutrition
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to inform prospective and current child day care providers about the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program by posting specified information to DSS's website and disseminating information by other means deemed appropriate by the department.

AB 589 (Lopez) Online child care job posting services: consumer education
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have required an online child care job posting service to post certain consumer education information on its Internet Web site, including information related to background check services offered, TrustLine, resource and referral programs, and the Community Care Licensing Division of the Department of Social Services (DSS). This bill also would have required DSS to review the Internet Web site of any online child care job posting service about which the department received a complaint and, if a violation was found, to serve a written notice of violation to the owner specifying the violation and potential fine and describing the opportunity for a fair hearing. This bill would have allowed an owner 30 days after receipt of a notice of violation to correct the violation or request a hearing, and instructed the department to impose a fine of \$1,000 per violation on owners with at least one previous violation who were found to be out of compliance a subsequent time; fines and penalties collected would have been required to be deposited in the Child Health and Safety Fund.

AB 598 (Calderon) Child care: family child care home education networks
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have adopted and clarified requirements for family child care home education network contractors and providers.

AB 762 (Mullin) Day care centers: toddler programs
Chapters by the Secretary of State, Chapter 373, Statutes of 2015

This bill increases the upper age limit for optional toddler programs authorized by the Department of Social Services from 30 months to three years of age and directs infant and preschool-age day care centers with an optional toddler program to, beginning January 1, 2016, extend the toddler component to serve children up to three years old.

AB 765 (Ridley-Thomas) Child care and development: reimbursement rates
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have stated that the standard reimbursement rate (SRR) was not intended to fund mandated costs imposed upon child development programs due to actions of law relating to minimum wage requirements, health insurance requirements, new or increased fees, new or expanded program requirements, or other cost increases due to legislative action. This bill would have defined "cost-of-living adjustment" (COLA) to mean an annual increase in funding and the SRR to maintain buying power as a result of inflation, and would have required the COLA as

AB 765 (Ridley-Thomas) (continued)

currently calculated to at least be equal to the amount of the inflation adjustment applied to specified K-12 school district revenue limits. In addition to the COLA, this bill would have required the SRR to be raised as needed to provide a living wage, reasonable health insurance, and retirement benefits for employees in order to support the recruitment and retention of skilled and trained teachers, to support the financial stability of programs and educational quality, and to achieve gender pay equity.

AB 833 (Bonta) Child care and development services: individualized county child care subsidy plan: County of Alameda
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 563, Statutes of 2015

This bill establishes a subsidized child care pilot program in Alameda County that enables the county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2021. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for the individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that the plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit the county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill also requires the county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Education each year.

AB 982 (Eggman) Child care and development: eligibility: homeless children
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 567, Statutes of 2015

This bill enhances the process for identifying homeless youth for subsidized child care services by adding “being homeless” as a criterion for which a child may be identified as eligible for subsidized child care services by specified entities and by adding local educational agency liaisons for homeless children and youths, Head Start programs, and emergency and transitional shelters to the list of entities that may identify a child, and thereby confer eligibility, for subsidized child development services.

AB 1679 (Weber) Child care: state preschool programs: eligibility: military families
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have expanded and codified emergency regulations that exclude all or a portion of the basic allowance for housing provided to active duty military personnel from income considerations for purposes of determining eligibility for state preschool.

AB 1712 (Oberholte) Child care: digital signatures
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 324, Statutes of 2016

This bill authorizes child care contractors to maintain records electronically and use electronic signatures, and requires that those signatures have the same force and effect as manual signatures.

AB 1897 (Mullin) Day care centers: birth to first grade license option
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have directed the Department of Social Services to, through the regulatory process and in consultation with stakeholders, create and implement an optional “birth to entering first grade” category of day care licensure that included, among other things, age-appropriate transition periods and a requirement that all other licensing regulations that apply to a day care center also applied to a birth-to-entering-first-grade option.

AB 2036 (Lopez) Online child care job posting services: background check service providers enforcement

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 497, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires an online child care job posting service to post specified information related to background checks on its Internet Web site and authorizes the Attorney General, a city attorney, or a county counsel to bring an action to impose a civil penalty on an online child care job posting service or background check service provider after certain steps are taken.

AB 2150 (Santiago) Subsidized child care and development services: eligibility periods
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have required that families who receive subsidized child care services, with some exceptions, be continuously eligible for those services for a period of not less than 12 months. This bill would have also required that, for purposes of establishing initial income eligibility for subsidized child care services, "income eligible" mean that a family's adjusted monthly income is at or below 70% of the state median income (SMI) based on the most recent data published by the United States Census Bureau for a family of the same size. This bill would have required that, for purposes of establishing ongoing income eligibility for subsidized child care services, "ongoing income eligible" mean that a family's adjusted monthly income is at or below 85% of the SMI based on the most recent data published by the United States Census Bureau for a family of the same size. This bill also would have authorized any family that received first priority for subsidized child care services to be exempt from family fees for up to 12 months.

AB 2368 (Gordon) Child care and development services: individualized county child care subsidy plan: County of Santa Clara

Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 574, Statutes of 2016

This bill authorizes Santa Clara County to establish a subsidized child care pilot program that enables the county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2022. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for the individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that the plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit the county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill also requires the county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Education each year.

AB 2677 (Chávez) Subsidized child care: limit on services
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have limited families eligible for subsidized child care to eight years of child care services and would have, with the exception of preschool contracts established with local educational agencies, phased out the system of direct child care contracts over five years and replaced these contracts with an expanded voucher system.

SB 548 (De León) Child care: family child care providers: orientation training
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have enacted the Raising Child Care Quality Act, which would have required the California Department of Education (CDE) to ensure that all subsidized family child care providers attend an in-person orientation training lasting at least four hours and covering topics including, but not limited to, minimum health and safety standards and occupational health and safety for family child care providers. This bill would have also required that family child care providers be compensated for their time spent attending the orientation training and that the orientation training be offered either directly or through contracts, with the portion of training covering occupational health and safety offered through contracts with a statewide organization that met specific criteria. This bill also would have required the Department of Social Services and CDE, within specified timelines, to provide information on family child care providers to requesting provider organizations and would have limited those provider organizations' use of such information to purposes of advocating on behalf of and educating family child care providers. This bill stated that its requirements were contingent upon appropriation of funds in the annual Budget Act or other statutes.

SB 792 (Mendoza) Day care facilities: immunizations: exemptions
Chapters by the Secretary of State, Chapter 807, Statutes of 2015

This bill requires day care center and family day care home workers or volunteers to be immunized against measles, pertussis, and influenza (flu), beginning September 1, 2016. This bill allows for 30-day conditional employment or volunteer status and specifies circumstances under which a person will be exempt from the immunization requirement based on medical safety, current immunity, or, specifically for the flu vaccine, the timing of hire or employee declination. This bill also requires any person hired or volunteering as a teacher in a day care center to present evidence of a current tuberculosis clearance.

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES/FOSTER CARE

AB 5 (Nazarian) Foster youth: transition from high school to postsecondary education
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to develop regulations authorizing educationally-based residential programs for foster youth by January 1, 2017, and would have required these educationally-based residential programs to support and strive to achieve home-based family care and permanency. This bill also would have required that educationally-based residential programs serve children in foster care, provided they were currently attending school,

AB 5 (Nazarian) (continued)

were between the ages of 14 and 18, and had been determined by the county to have a very low possibility of reunifying with their parents/guardians or achieving a permanent placement. Additionally, this bill would have required DSS to report information on the benefits of these programs by January 1, 2020.

AB 260 (Lopez) Foster care: parenting youth
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 511, Statutes of 2015

This bill requires a party seeking foster care placement of, or termination of parental rights over, a child with a minor dependent parent to demonstrate that reasonable efforts were made to provide services aimed at preventing the removal of the child and that those efforts were unsuccessful. This bill also ensures reunification services are not terminated for a child with a minor dependent parent based solely on the termination of reunification services for, or severance of parental rights over, his or her siblings. This bill requires the clerk of the superior court to maintain court files and records regarding a dependent parent of a child who is the subject of a dependency petition separately from the files and records regarding that child, and establishes requirements regarding disclosure and admittance of a parent's dependency files and records. This bill also requires foster care placements for minor parents and nonminor dependent parents and their children to support the preservation of the family unit and to refer a minor parent or nonminor dependent parent to services to prevent, whenever possible, the filing of a petition to declare the child a dependent of the juvenile court.

AB 336 (Waldron) Child welfare services: investigations
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have allowed a parent or legal guardian to make a video or audio recording of any interview or interactions with a county child protective services social worker who was investigating allegations of parental abuse or neglect and would have provided that a social worker's participation in an investigation of abuse or neglect shall have been deemed consent to video or audio recording. This bill also would have required a county child protective services social worker to provide written notification to a parent or legal guardian undergoing investigation that informed him or her of this ability and would have required that notice to be signed by the parent or legal guardian acknowledging receipt.

AB 381 (Ian C. Calderon) Dependent children: placement
Died in Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have required county social workers and the court to consider on a case-by-case basis the factors they examined when determining whether a child who had been removed from the physical custody of his or her parents should be placed with a relative. This bill also would have required that placement with suitable relatives be considered subsequent to the disposition hearing, regardless of whether a new placement for the child was called for, and would have expanded the factors the social worker was required to report to the court for consideration to include, among other things, the length of time the child had been in his or her current placement, the relationship of the child with his or her current caregiver, and the placement preference of the child.

AB 403 (Mark Stone) Public social services: foster care placement funding
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 773, Statutes of 2015

This bill phases out the current use of congregate care settings, including group homes, as long-term placements for the care of children in California's child welfare services system and implements new rate structures for services and treatment, along with other Continuum of Care Reform recommendations, to better serve children and families. Among the provisions of this bill are requirements that any congregate care settings and foster family agencies be accredited by a national accrediting organization and that the short-term residential treatment centers, newly-licensed per this bill and charged with providing treatment in lieu of group homes beginning January 1, 2017, provide only short-term mental health treatment until home-based family care can be established for a child.

AB 519 (McCarty) Foster youth: permanency
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have made a number of changes to options and requirements for permanency plans for dependent children and wards of the court, including establishing a new permanency plan option of placement with a fit and willing relative, and eliminating references to long-term foster care and instead referring to "another permanent planned living arrangement" (APPLA), and prohibiting an APPLA placement for children under the age of 16. This bill also would have required a child to be offered child-centered specialized permanency services prior to that child being deemed not a proper subject for adoption or being ordered to remain in an APPLA. This bill would have also made a number of changes to steps agencies must take in order to attempt securing permanent placements for youth, and would have required the provision of information regarding specialized mental health services to prospective adoptive families and guardians.

AB 592 (Mark Stone) Juveniles: proof of dependency or wardship
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 215, Statutes of 2015

This bill permits the Department of Social Services to provide a former foster youth, upon his or her request, with specified proof of dependency or wardship.

AB 719 (Campos) Child welfare agencies: missing foster children
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have required a county child welfare agency to make a report regarding a child in foster care that was missing to the police department or sheriff's department and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

AB 878 (Eggman) Child welfare: foster care
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have made, as of January 1, 2018, a number of changes consistent with Continuum of Care Reform recommendations, including authorizing short-term residential treatment centers (STRTCs) as a placement option in lieu of group homes, and adopting additional requirements for placement in an STRTC. This bill also would have required the Department of

AB 878 (Eggman) (continued)

Social Services to, by December 31, 2016, convene a workgroup of various stakeholders to develop and implement the “Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Plus assessment tool,” a standardized assessment tool to be used statewide, to determine the placement needs and level of child-centered supplement for each child, and to issue guidance to county child welfare agencies on reviewing the assessment tool.

AB 885 (Lopez) Foster youth
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have facilitated former foster youth re-entering care upon the disruption of their permanent relationship by, among other things, removing the requirement that a guardian or adoptive parent must no longer have been receiving Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program (Kin-GAP) aid or adoption assistance in order for a nonminor to have been able to petition the court to remain in foster care and by permitting a nonminor to enter into a voluntary re-entry agreement if that nonminor's guardian(s) or adoptive parent(s) died or was/were no longer receiving payment on behalf of the nonminor.

AB 919 (Dababneh) Foster youth: social security insurance
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have changed the age at which a county must provide certain information regarding establishing continued Supplemental Security Income (SSI) eligibility and receipt to a youth receiving SSI payments from when that youth was approaching his or her 18th birthday to when he or she was approaching his or her 17th birthday.

AB 1001 (Maienschein) Child abuse: reporting: foster family agencies
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 850, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires specified actions by the Department of Social Services pertaining to the license, special permit, or certificate of a community care facility when the department finds that an administrator or licensee has violated certain mandated reporting laws, expands the definition of “mandated reporter” to include certain board members, and prohibits an organization’s internal policy from directing an employee to allow his or her supervisor to file or process a mandated report.

AB 1067 (Gipson) Foster children: psychotropic medication
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 851, Statutes of 2016

This bill adds to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights a youth’s rights to: be informed of the risks and benefits of psychotropic medications; appear before the judge determining if psychotropic medication should be administered with an advocate of his or her choice, and state that he or she objects to any recommendation to prescribe psychotropic medication; refuse the administration of psychotropic and other medications consistent with applicable law or unless immediately necessary for the preservation of life or the prevention of serious bodily harm; and have a prescribing doctor disclose any financial ties he or she may have to pharmaceutical companies.

AB 1299 (Ridley-Thomas) Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services: foster children
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 603, Statutes of 2016

This bill adopts a number of requirements for the California Health and Human Services Agency, in coordination with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and the Department of Social Services, to facilitate the receipt of medically-necessary specialty mental health services by a foster child who is placed outside of his or her county of original jurisdiction, including, by July 1, 2016, issuing policy guidance regarding presumptive transfer of responsibility for service provision or arrangement from the county of a child's original jurisdiction to that of his or her current residence. This bill provides requirements and exceptions for the application of presumptive transfer and requires, upon presumptive transfer, the mental health plan in the host county to assume responsibility for the authorization and provision of, and payment for, mental health services. This bill requires DHCS to amend its contract with each mental health plan by July 1, 2016, to ensure that host counties are reimbursed, and also requires DHCS to, if it determines necessary, seek Medicaid waiver approval from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) by July 1, 2016, and exempts DHCS from any requirement of this bill that CMS determines to be impermissible per the state's waiver.

AB 1327 (Dahle) Foster care: transitional housing
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have removed the requirement that certain options for transitional housing for foster children between 16 and 18 years old and for nonminor dependents be owned or leased by the transitional housing provider and instead would have required the provider to be responsible for the payment of any contracted rental fees and any late-payment penalties to the property owner.

AB 1416 (Dababneh) Foster parent evaluations
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have directed the Department of Social Services (DSS), in consultation with stakeholders, to develop and implement a foster parent evaluation process by January 1, 2017, and it would have required this process to include a means for foster youth over the age of 12 and nonminor dependents to provide feedback on the quality of care received. This bill would have required DSS to develop an evaluation tool, in partnership with current and former foster youth and their caregivers, that allowed youth to give feedback on a number of factors. This bill also would have required DSS, in consultation with specified caregivers, to consider how information gathered from the evaluations could inform recruitment, training, and retention of high-quality foster parents.

AB 1688 (Rodriguez) Dependent Children: out-of-county placement notice
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 605, Statutes of 2016

This bill expands the list of specified individuals required to receive advance notification regarding out-of-county placement of children in the child welfare system to include a child's attorney and a child 10 years of age or older, and permits a child to object to the placement and, upon objection, receive a hearing regarding the objection prior to placement.

AB 1702 (Mark Stone) Juveniles: dependent children: reunification services
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 124, Statutes of 2016

This bill expands the court's ability to deny reunification services to the parent or guardian of a dependent child to include instances in which the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the parent has knowingly participated in or consented to the sexual exploitation of the child. This bill exempts instances in which it has been demonstrated that a parent or guardian was coerced into permitting, or participating in, the sexual exploitation of the child.

AB 1838 (Ting) Foster care: infant supplement: pregnancy prevention
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have required the infant supplement to be paid to a pregnant minor or nonminor dependent for the month in which the birth is anticipated and for the three months immediately prior, provided the pregnancy was verified, in order to meet the specialized needs of the pregnant minor or nonminor dependent and to properly prepare for the needs of the infant.

AB 1849 (Gipson) Foster youth: transition to independent living: health insurance coverage
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 609, Statutes of 2016

This bill adopts changes to conform to existing law mandating uninterrupted Medi-Cal coverage until age 26 for former foster youth by requiring a county welfare department to verify that it has provided, or made attempts to provide, eligible nonminors with the following prior to the court terminating dependency jurisdiction: written verification that the nonminor is enrolled in Medi-Cal; the nonminor's Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card; and continued and uninterrupted enrollment in Medi-Cal. This bill also requires mandatory health insurance information included in a youth's or nonminor's 90-day transition plan to include verification that the eligible youth or nonminor is enrolled in Medi-Cal, alongside a description of the steps that have been or will be taken to ensure that the youth or nonminor is transitioned into the Medi-Cal program for former foster youth upon case closure with no interruption in coverage and without a new application being required.

AB 1879 (McCarty) Foster youth: permanency
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have defined "child-centered specialized permanency services" to mean services designed for, and with, a child to: address the child's history of trauma, separation, and loss; include mental health services or other services; utilize enhanced family finding and engagement to assist the child in achieving a permanent family; prepare the permanent family to meet the child's needs; set appropriate expectations for before and after permanency; and stabilize the placement. This bill would have required the provision of child-centered specialized permanency services for specified foster youth, and authorized the provision of these services for specified nonminor dependents, in order to facilitate the placement of these youth and nonminor dependents with permanent families.

AB 1883 (Cooley) Child Sexual abuse: prevention pilot program
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have established, until 2020, the Child Sexual Assault Prevention Program as a pilot program in three counties, selected by the Department of Social Services, to provide child sexual abuse prevention and intervention services, and would have appropriated \$50,000 annually from the General Fund to each county for this purpose.

AB 1911 (Eggman) Dual status minors
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 637, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires the Judicial Council to convene a committee of stakeholders to develop recommendations, and report those recommendations to the Legislature, in order to facilitate and enhance comprehensive data and outcome tracking for youth involved with both the child welfare system and the juvenile justice system. Stakeholder recommendations must include, among other things: standardized definitions and defined goals for dual-status youth; clearly identified and defined outcomes to be tracked by counties; an estimate of costs and benefits associated with requiring counties to implement the committee's recommendations; and an assessment of whether a single technology system is needed to track youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services to, by January 1, 2019, implement a function within the applicable case management system that will allow for the identification and ongoing tracking of dual-status youth.

AB 1984 (Linder) Foster youth: enrichment activities
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have required Department of Social Services (DSS), by January 1, 2018, to establish the California Foster Youth Enrichment Grant Program to provide grants to foster youth to participate in activities that enhance their skills, abilities, self-esteem, or overall well-being. This bill would have required DSS, by March 1, 2017, to convene a workgroup to develop an implementation plan to maximize the grant program's impact and would have further specified that the workgroup be composed of members that represented the interests of foster youth. This bill would have also required grants awarded to be no more than \$500 and to fund a program, service, product, or any directly related costs that provided: skill development, academic or school-related assistance, or recreational or social participation to a foster youth. This bill would have required DSS to submit a report to the Legislature containing specified data and information on the grant program by January 1, 2021, and would have sunset the program as of January 1, 2022.

AB 1997 (Mark Stone) Foster care
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 612, Statutes of 2016

This bill adopts changes to further facilitate implementation of Continuum of Care Reform recommendations adopted by AB 403 (Stone, Chapter 773, Statutes of 2015) to better serve children and youth in California's child welfare services system including, but not limited to: modifications of the Resource Family Approval process; required payment of basic rate to all families regardless of approval process; and altered requirements for mental health certification of short-term residential therapeutic programs.

AB 2005 (Ridley-Thomas) Juveniles: out-of-state placement
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have required the juvenile court to, among other determinations it must make prior to ordering an out-of-state commitment or placement for a minor adjudged a ward of the court, ensure that the case plan for the minor demonstrated that such a placement was the most appropriate for the minor and was in the best interests of the minor. This bill would have also clarified that specified provisions related to the placement of minors in juvenile homes, ranches, camps, or forestry camps were prohibited from being construed as authorizing courts to commit minors to placement in such settings located outside of the state.

AB 2359 (Williams) Foster care placement
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services to convene a resource family rights working group to examine the existing rights of resource families and make recommendations to the Legislature to revise existing and create additional resource family rights. The bill also would have required the working group to create standardized information regarding resource family rights as well as develop recommendations for dissemination of standardized information and increasing resource families' knowledge of their rights. This bill would have also required the working group to consider recommending to the Legislature the establishment of a set of specified resource family rights.

AB 2380 (Alejo) Defendants: minor children
Chapters by the Secretary of State, Chapter 882, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires the court to provide a defendant who is charged with a felony and who is, or whom the court reasonably deems to be, the sole custodial parent of one or more minor children with: a Judicial Council form on guardianship, information regarding power of attorney for a minor child, and information regarding TrustLine background examinations.

AB 2445 (Dababneh) Foster youth: social security insurance
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have changed the age at which a county must provide information and assistance to foster youth about receiving ongoing Supplemental Security Income benefits from the youth's 18th birthday to the youth's 17th birthday.

AB 2580 (Olsen) Foster care: placements
Died in the Senate Rules Committee

This bill would have permitted a caregiver to indicate to a foster child's social worker, in writing, at the time the child is removed from the caregiver's care in order for the child to be reunified with the child's parent or guardian, that the caregiver is interested in providing and willing to provide care for the child in the future if the child is removed from the custody of his or her parent or guardian and in need of foster care placement. This bill would have required a caregiver indicating such interest to

AB 2580 (Olsen) (continued)

provide contact information to the social worker for placement in the child's case file. This bill would have also required that a probation officer or social worker serve notice prior to a child's initial petition hearing to the caregiver who cared for the child in a foster home in which a child had been placed before an interruption in the foster care placement if the caregiver indicated to the social worker his or her willingness to care for the child in the future.

AB 2597 (Cooley) Resource family approval
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have made several changes to the existing Resource Family Approval (RFA) process to account for the unique needs of relative caregivers. Specifically, this bill would have: clarified financial stability requirements for relative caregivers certified under RFA; allowed for child-specific placement approval for relative caregivers who were unwilling or unable to become a placement option for other youth; allowed for the immediate placement of children with relatives prior to the approval of a relative caregiver's home, as specified by existing statute; clarified the status of a relative caregiver as a "fit and willing relative" to be taken into consideration during a permanency assessment; and specified the circumstances under which a child placed with a relative caregiver on an emergency basis received CalWORKs and Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care funding.

AB 2723 (Chávez) Juvenile dependency: prostitution
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have amended findings and declarations to state that a child who had loitered with the intent to commit prostitution or who had solicited, agreed to engage, or engaged in prostitution, and whose parent or guardian failed to, or was unable to, protect the child, fell under the definition of "commercially sexually exploited children" and would have allowed such a child to be adjudged a dependent child of the juvenile court.

AB 2767 (Lopez) Foster care: caregivers: information
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 619, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires that foster parents be provided with the email address of a child's social worker, the social worker's supervisor, the child's attorney, and court-appointed special advocate, in addition to additional already-required contact information.

AB 2813 (Bloom) Juvenile offenders; dual-status minors
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 646, Statutes of 2016

This bill prevents probation officers from detaining a minor who has been taken into temporary custody if certain conditions exist, such as: the minor is in need of care but has no parent, legal guardian, or responsible relative who is willing or capable of exercising that care or control; the minor is destitute or is not provided with basic necessities; or the minor resides in an unfit home as a result of neglect, cruelty, depravity, or physical abuse. This bill also prevents a probation officer from basing his or her decision to detain a minor who is currently a dependent of the juvenile court,

AB 2813 (Bloom) (continued)

or the subject of a petition to declare him or her a dependent of the juvenile court, on certain criteria, including: the minor's status as a dependent of, or his or her being a subject of a petition to declare him or her a dependent of, the juvenile court; a determination that continued residence in his or her current placement is contrary to the minor's welfare; or the child welfare services department's inability to provide a placement for the minor. This bill also requires that a probation officer immediately release a minor to the custody of the child welfare system or his or her current foster parent or other caregiver, unless continued detention is a matter of immediate necessity.

AB 2869 (Chávez) Dependent children: military notification
Died in the Senate Human Services Committee

This bill would have required a social worker who was conducting a child welfare services investigation to make every effort to ascertain if a parent or guardian of a child, or that person's spouse, was a member of the Armed Forces. This bill also would have required a social worker to notify the Family Advocacy Program of the military installation at which the specified family member was stationed that there was an open child welfare services investigation.

AJR 17 (Lopez) Foster Care Tax Credit Act
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Res. Chapter 176, Statutes of 2015

This joint resolution urges the President and the United States Congress to enact Senate Bill 664 of the 114th Congress, also known as the Foster Care Tax Credit Act, which would help short-term foster parents cover the actual costs of caring for a child in foster care.

SB 12 (Beall) Foster youth
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have expanded eligibility for extended foster care to specified nonminors who had crossed over from the dependency system to the delinquency system by, specifically, permitting a nonminor between the ages of 18 and 21 to petition the court to resume dependency jurisdiction or assume transition jurisdiction over him or her, provided he or she had been all of the following: adjudged a ward of the court; subject to an order for foster care placement at the time the petition to adjudge him or her a ward of the court was filed; and held in secure confinement when he or she reached 18 years of age.

SB 68 (Liu) Minor or nonminor dependent parents: reunification services
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 284, Statutes of 2015

This bill requires the court, when determining whether to return a child who has entered foster care to the physical custody of his or her parent or legal guardian, to consider the particular barriers faced by his or her nonminor dependent or minor parents. This bill also authorizes the court to continue a case for an extra six months for the provision of additional reunification services for a minor parent or nonminor dependent parent who is making significant and consistent progress in establishing a safe home for his or her child's return.

SB 238 (Mitchell) Foster care: psychotropic medication
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 534, Statutes of 2015

This bill adopts a number of changes related to the administration of psychotropic medication to foster youth, including requiring the Department of Social Services (DSS), in consultation with specified stakeholders, to develop trainings for certain individuals who either provide care or come into contact with foster youth due to their occupations that includes specified information regarding psychotropic medication and substance use disorder and mental health treatments. This bill also requires the Judicial Council, by July 1, 2016, and in consultation with specified stakeholders, to amend and adopt rules of court and develop appropriate forms regarding new requirements for the authorization of psychotropic medication to include a process for periodic oversight by the court of orders regarding the administration of psychotropic medication. This bill requires that a dependent child's or ward's caregiver be provided with a copy of any court order approving or denying the administration of psychotropic medication. This bill also requires DSS, in consultation with specified stakeholders, to generate monthly, county-specific reports that include certain information regarding each child receiving psychotropic medication paid for under Medi-Cal and are to be shared with specified individuals. Additionally, this bill requires the Department of Health Care Services to provide DSS, per a data sharing agreement, information on administration, oversight, and implementation of health and social services programs for children in foster care, and allows county placing agencies to opt in to the data sharing agreement and receive the data reports.

SB 253 (Monning) Juveniles: psychotropic medication
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have adopted a number of changes related to the administration of psychotropic medication to foster youth, including revising juvenile court oversight requirements. This bill would have required, as of January 1, 2018, an order authorizing the administration of psychotropic medications to a dependent or delinquent child in foster care to have been granted only upon the court's determination that the administration of the medication was in the best interests of the child and that specified requirements, including laboratory screenings, had been met. This bill also would have required, under specified conditions, the court to have been prohibited from authorizing psychotropic medications until a pre-authorization review had been conducted by a child psychiatrist or behavioral pediatrician.

SB 316 (Mitchell) Placement of children: criminal records check
Died in the Assembly Rules Committee

This bill would have conformed the existing criminal exemption process with federal law and provided clarification on compliance with federal requirements for criminal background checks and restrictions for foster care placements. Specifically, this bill would have: integrated with federal law the list of non-exemptible crimes committed by certain individuals that could have prohibited the placement of a child, and specified certain crimes that were eligible for an exemption to be granted by the child welfare agency and/or courts. This bill also would have required that certain factors related to criminal exemptions and the commission of a crime or crimes by a caregiver be taken into account when the social worker and/or court made the decision to place a child in a home.

SB 319 (Beall) Child welfare services: public health nursing
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 535, Statutes of 2015

This bill adopts a number of changes related to the administration of psychotropic medication to foster youth, including incorporating the monitoring and oversight of psychotropic medications among the duties of foster care public health nurses and ensuring their access to relevant medical information. This bill also requires foster care public health nurses to receive certain training related to psychotropic medications and to, among other assistance provided at the request of and under the direction of a nonminor dependent, assist the nonminor dependent in making informed decisions about his or her health care by, at a minimum, providing educational materials.

SB 478 (Huff) Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act: mandated reporters: pilot program
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 490, Statutes of 2015

This bill authorizes a five-year pilot program for Internet-based reporting of child abuse and neglect in up to 10 counties identified by the Department of Social Services and the County Welfare Directors Association of California, and allows the reporting tool to be used in lieu of the currently-required initial telephone report. This bill only allows certain mandated reporters to use the Internet-based system developed within the pilot program, and it requires that the reports of suspected child abuse or neglect made to the system not include instances of immediate risk or imminent danger to the child or children in question and sets forth outcome measurement requirements.

SB 484 (Beall) Juveniles
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 540, Statutes of 2015

This bill adopts a number of changes related to the administration of psychotropic medication to foster youth, including requiring the Department of Social Services (DSS) to, at least annually and to the extent feasible, compile specified Health Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) data, including, but not limited to, data on follow-up care for children prescribed attention deficit hyperactivity disorder medication and use of multiple concurrent antipsychotics in children and adolescents. This bill also adopts measures aimed at reforming the practices of group homes with levels of psychotropic medication utilization determined to warrant additional review, including requiring DSS to consult with the Department of Health Care Services and stakeholders to establish a methodology, by July 1, 2016, for identifying such group homes and requiring DSS to conduct annual inspections of any facility identified per this methodology, and establishing plan-of-correction procedures for facilities, as warranted. This bill requires group home facilities to maintain in a child's records a copy of any court order authorizing psychotropic medication, as well as a separate log for each prescribed psychotropic medication that contains information about that medication and its administration. This bill also requires DSS to post the list of data to be collected and the information gathered pursuant to this bill on its Internet Web site and requires DSS, by January 1, 2017, and in consultation with specified entities, to develop additional performance standards and outcome measures that require group homes to implement alternative programs and services for children in group homes.

SB 731 (Leno) Foster children: housing: gender identity
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 805, Statutes of 2015

This bill requires foster children and nonminor dependents in out-of-home care to be placed according to their gender identity and adds to the codified list of foster youth's and nonminor dependents' rights the right to be placed in out-of-home care according to one's gender identity, regardless of the gender or sex listed in court or child welfare records. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services' Community Care Licensing Division to develop regulations consistent with this right.

SB 794 (Human Services Committee) Child welfare services
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 425, Statutes of 2015

This bill brings state law into compliance with the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (Public Law 113-183), which, among other provisions, eliminates placement of a dependent child under 16 years of age in "another planned permanent living arrangement" as a permanency option and requires the court to order a permanent plan of return home, adoption, tribal customary adoption, legal guardianship, or placement with a fit and willing relative, as appropriate. This bill also prohibits placement in a group home or in a short-term residential treatment facility as the identified permanent plan for any child or nonminor dependent. Additionally, this bill expands the definition of sexual exploitation to include a person who sexually trafficks a child or commercially sexually exploits a child and sets forth requirements for county welfare departments and child welfare agencies to report to law enforcement that a child or youth who is receiving child welfare services has been identified as the victim of commercial sexual exploitation.

SB 906 (Beall) Public postsecondary education: priority enrollment system
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 437, Statutes of 2016

This bill clarifies the definition of "foster youth or former foster youth" for purposes of providing priority registration at the University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges (CCC) to certain individuals. This bill also repeals the sunset date of January 1, 2017, for the provision of priority registration to foster youth and former foster youth, and to students in the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services and to those eligible for Disabled Student Programs and Services at the CCC.

SB 942 (Liu) Dependency proceedings: relative caregivers
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have required that, in the event that a child is not placed with a relative at the time of the initial petition hearing, but an able and willing relative was available and requested temporary placement of the child, the relative's home be assessed for placement. The bill also would have required county welfare agencies to, to the extent possible, assist persons filing for criminal records exemptions with locating pertinent documents. The bill also would have required the county to complete an assessment of a prospective placement within 30 calendar days; in the event that an assessment was not completed within 30 days, this bill would have allowed the court to set an order

SB 942 (Liu) (continued)

to show cause hearing. In the event that an assessment was not completed within 60 days, this bill would have allowed the court to conduct a hearing in order to determine whether or not the county has abused its discretion.

SB 1220 (McGuire) Child welfare services: case plans: behavioral health services
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have required that, for a child who was within the jurisdiction of the child welfare system and who was assessed as needing behavioral health services, the summary or copy of the treatment plan be provided to the social worker by the child's physician or county clinician, and a summary or copy of a treatment plan be included in the child's case plan. This bill also would have required that a treatment plan that had not been finalized be updated at the next regular court hearing after the treatment plan had been finalized, and would have required the social worker to attach a copy of the treatment plan to a request to authorize the administration of psychotropic medication.

SB 1336 (Jackson) Dependent children: placement with relatives
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 890, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires the court to make a finding as to whether a social worker has exercised due diligence in conducting an investigation to identify, locate, and notify the child's relatives whenever a child is removed from the custody of his or her parent or guardian, and allows the court to consider certain factors in determining whether or not a social worker has exercised due diligence.

COMMUNITY CARE LICENSING

AB 74 (Ian C. Calderon) Child care facilities: regulatory visits
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services to increase inspections of licensed child day care centers and family day care homes by conducting annual unannounced visits, between January 1, 2018, and January 1, 2019, of at least a 20% random sample of facilities that were not otherwise subject to annual inspections to address compliance issues or meet federal funding requirements and by conducting at least one annual unannounced visit in each licensed child day care center and family day care home on and after January 1, 2019.

AB 601 (Eggman) Residential care facilities for the elderly: licensing and regulation
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 628, Statutes of 2015

This bill requires applicants for a residential care facility for the elderly (RCFE) license to, upon application and at other specified times, disclose specified information including, but not limited to, information regarding current and previous facility ownership, management, and/or operation, and certain information regarding any individual or entity holding a beneficial ownership interest of at least 10% and information regarding the person holding operational control of the RCFE in question. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to cross-check the RCFE license applicant's information with the Department of Public Health. This bill permits DSS to take certain

AB 601 (Eggman) (continued)

administrative actions, including denial or revocation of an RCFE license application and assessment of civil penalties, if an applicant, licensee, or other specified party commits certain violations. This bill also requires DSS to post identifying and descriptive information regarding licensed providers, to the extent that its computer system can accommodate such information.

**AB 1054 (Burke) Home care services: licensing and registration: regional center vendors
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)**

This bill would have repealed the exclusion of regional-center-vendored home care services providers from the definitions of home care aide and home care organization within the Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act (Chapter 790, Statutes of 2013), thereby requiring such providers to have been included on the home care aide registry and meet other standards, beginning January 1, 2016.

**AB 1122 (Brown) Residential care facilities for the elderly: excluded persons
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)**

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS) to publish and periodically update on its Internet Web site a list – to have been referred to as the Excluded Persons Administrative Action List (EPAAL) – containing specified information regarding all individuals who had been the subject of an administrative action since January 1, 1990, that resulted in a license revocation, denial or probation, or an individual exclusion or probation. This bill would have adopted requirements for licensees and other entities regarding use of the EPAAL. This bill also would have required a licensed residential care facility for the elderly to, within 24 hours of having received notice of DSS’s action to exclude an individual, post DSS’s unredacted letter next to the facility license, and to provide related notifications to current and future residents within specified time periods.

**AB 1387 (Chu) Care facilities: civil penalties, deficiencies, and appeal procedures
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 486, Statutes of 2015**

This bill establishes a two-level appeals process for a civil penalty assessed for a community care facility violation that the Department of Social Services (DSS) determines resulted in the death, physical abuse, or serious bodily injury of an individual, and also provides for a separate two-level appeals process for any other civil penalty or deficiency. Among other changes to the current appeals process, this bill establishes certain deadlines within the process and requires the notification of deficiency written by a representative of DSS to include a factual description of the nature of the deficiency. This bill also adopts changes to the residential care facility for the elderly (RCFE) complaint process, including, among other things, requiring DSS to notify the complainant of its decision regarding a complaint within 10 business days of investigation and requiring the department to, prior to conducting an onsite investigation regarding an RCFE complaint, make a good faith effort to contact and interview the complainant and inform the complainant of the department’s proposed course of action and the relevant deadline for completion of the investigation.

AB 1467 (Bloom) Care facilities: civil penalties
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have made a number of changes to the amount and assessment of civil penalties for community care licensing violations, including increasing certain civil penalties for a number of violations, imposing civil penalties for specified repeat violations, and reducing civil penalties assessed for certain serious violations for some smaller foster care and adult facilities. This bill also would have clarified that facilities assessed a civil penalty for violations determined to have resulted in the death, serious bodily injury, or physical abuse of an individual shall also have been assessed civil penalties related to the underlying violation.

AB 2231 (Calderon) Care facilities: civil penalties
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 823, Statutes of 2016

This bill increases the civil penalties for specific violations and adopts penalties for repeat violations in licensed community care facilities, including, but not limited to, Residential Care Facilities for Persons with Chronic Life-Threatening Illnesses, Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly, Day Care Centers, and Family Day Care Homes. This bill also makes changes to the existing appeals process such that assessed civil penalties are due and payable once all administrative appeals have been exhausted, and requires late fees to be assessed in the event that a civil penalty is not paid within 30 days, unless payment arrangements have been made, as specified by the department in regulation.

AB 2661 (Burke) Continuing care retirement communities: contracts
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have exempted a continuing care contract that includes a promise to repay all or a portion of an entrance fee conditioned upon reoccupancy or resale of any unit previously occupied by the resident from refund reserve requirements. This bill would have required, for all continuing care contracts with a repayment of all or a portion of the entrance fee conditioned upon the resale of a unit, that a continuing care contract contain information stating the average and longest amount of time that it had taken for a resident to receive full payment within the last five calendar years. This bill would have also, with certain exceptions, prohibited a continuing care retirement community provider from charging a resident or his or her estate a monthly fee after a contract had been terminated and the unit permanently vacated by the resident.

SB 475 (Monning) Continuing care contracts: cancellation: payments
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have imposed certain repayment and other requirements on continuing care retirement community (CCRC) providers and contracts, including requiring, for contracts signed after January 1, 2016, the repayment of a certain portion of the full lump-sum payment within 120 days of termination. This bill would have also required, for contracts entered into on or after January 1, 2016, that any payment balance that had not been paid to a resident within specified deadlines accrue interest until the date the full lump-sum payment was paid to the resident. This bill would have prohibited CCRC providers from charging a resident or his or her descendants a monthly fee once a unit had been permanently vacated by the resident, unless the fee was part of an equity

SB 475 (Monning) (continued)

interest contract. This bill would have also required a provider to make a good faith effort to reoccupy or resell a unit for which a lump-sum payment was conditioned upon resale of the unit and would have established a process for residents to file a complaint with the Department of Social Services and required repayment within a specified timeline if that provider was found to not have made a sufficient good faith effort to reoccupy or resell a unit.

SB 524 (Lara) Private or public residential care facilities for youth
Chapered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 864, Statutes of 2016

This bill establishes two new types of community care facilities – private alternative boarding schools and private alternative outdoor programs – and makes those facilities subject to regulation under the Community Care Licensing Act as of January 1, 2018, and January 1, 2019, respectively. The bill also establishes rights for youth admitted to a private alternative boarding school or a private alternative outdoor program and requires each prospective youth and his or her parent or guardian to be provided with an accurate written description of the programs. The bill requires training in specified subject areas, and makes other regulatory changes.

SB 939 (Monning) Continuing care contracts: cancellation: payments
Chapered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 112, Statutes of 2016

This bill imposes additional requirements on certain continuing care contracts and continuing care retirement community providers. This bill clarifies the definition of “repayable contract” by explicitly defining it to mean a continuing care contract that includes a promise to repay all or a portion of an entrance fee that is conditioned upon reoccupancy or resale of the unit previously occupied by the resident, and also specifies within this definition that a provider may repay all or a portion of an entrance fee before the resale of the unit. This bill prohibits a provider from charging a resident or his or her estate a monthly fee once a unit has been permanently vacated by the resident, unless that fee is part of an equity interest contract, and requires providers to supply statements that describe this prohibition. This bill requires a continuing care contract to contain the policy or terms for repaying a lump sum of any portion of the entrance fee, alongside other specified information, and requires, for all contracts with a repayment of all or a portion of the entrance fee conditioned upon resale of the unit, that the contract state that the provider shall make a good-faith effort to reoccupy or resell the unit and state the average and longest amount of time that a provider has taken to resell a unit within the last five calendar years. This bill also requires any balance of the lump sum due a resident per a repayable contract entered into on or after January 1, 2017, to accrue simple interest of 4% after 180 days and 6% after 240 days, and compound interest annually at a rate of 6% for any balance remaining one year after the initial 240-day period. This bill requires that, after the death of a resident, the lump sum owed, including any interest accrued, be made payable to the resident’s estate, and further provides for a one-year delay in application of this requirement to projects in development prior to January 1, 2017.

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

AB 286 (Achadjian) Developmental services: supported living services
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have required direct care workers that provided supported living services to regional center clients to satisfactorily complete 15 hours of training in behavioral intervention within three months of employment as a direct care worker.

AB 563 (Lopez) Developmental services
Died in the Senate Human Services Committee

This bill would have required the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the Department of Aging to, in consultation with specified stakeholders, develop best practices for providing culturally competent services to aging regional center consumers by January 1, 2017. This bill also would have required DDS to conduct a two-year pilot program to implement the best practices in three regional centers across the state and submit an evaluation to the Legislature upon the conclusion of the pilot program that included a determination of whether the best practices should have been implemented statewide.

AB 564 (Eggman) Regional centers: parental fees
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 500, Statutes of 2015

This bill makes a number of changes to the Parental Fee Program as of July 1, 2016, including revising the requirement that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) assess a monthly fee to parents with children receiving 24-hour out-of-home care services through a regional center or as a resident of a state hospital to only include those families with gross incomes above 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). This bill also requires the monthly parental fee to be recalculated every 12 months and within 60 days of the date a parent notifies DDS of a change in family income or size, and it authorizes DDS to grant a temporary waiver from paying the monthly parental fee in cases where a family experiences an unavoidable and uninsured catastrophic loss with direct economic impact on the family or significant unreimbursed medical costs associated with care for a child who is a regional center client.

AB 1400 (Santiago) Developmental services: regional center contracts
(Note: This bill as heard in the Assembly Human Services Committee related to developmental services. The bill as amended on June 20, 2016, related to: Hazardous waste: facilities permitting. Died in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.)

Summary of the bill as heard in the Assembly Human Services Committee:

This bill would have required that entities contracting with regional centers provide in-home respite services with annual revenue attributable to those in-home respite services of at least \$7 million dollars excluding financial management services and other administrative services spend at least 85% of those regional center funds on direct service expenditures. This bill also would have required in-home respite service providers and contractors subject to the provisions of this bill to,

AB 1400 (Santiago) (continued)

upon request, provide regional centers with access to books, documents, papers, computerized data, source documents, consumer records, or other records pertaining to the service providers' and contractors' negotiated rates.

AB 1405 (Grove) Developmental centers: closure
Died in the Assembly Accountability & Administrative Review Committee

This bill would have required the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to close the Sonoma Developmental Center (DC) by December 31, 2018, and the Fairview DC by December 31, 2021, and would have required the director of the Department of General Services to, upon closure, lease all or part of the parcels at the two DCs, with 50% of the net proceeds deposited into the state's Budget Stabilization Account and the other 50% deposited into the Lanterman Act Community-Based Services Fund which would have been created by this bill for purposes of funding regional center services. Additionally, this bill was an urgency statute and would have required DDS to submit a plan to the Legislature prior to the closure of the Fairview or Sonoma DC.

AB 1565 (Lackey) Developmental services: funding
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have made a number of changes regarding the funding of regional centers and their activities, including: varying the percentage limit placed on regional center administrative costs by the total annual value of the payments received by a service provider; increasing the rates for certain providers and services, and establishing certain criteria to be used in the establishment of new rates; requiring the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to increase the funding for regional center operations and to fund certain costs related to minimum wage requirements; and requiring DDS to develop and submit a plan, by August 1, 2017, to the Legislature for ensuring the sustainability, quality, and transparency of the community services system for individuals with developmental disabilities.

AB 2383 (Medina) Autism Employment and Education
Died in the Assembly Higher Education Committee

This bill would have established the Autism Employment and Education Act, which would have created a residential, occupational, and living skills program at participating community colleges and California State University campuses for students with mental disabilities, including autism, aimed at: increasing the rate of employment of students with mental disabilities, providing an affordable alternative to adult day treatment programs for families, enabling students to live independently, and providing coordinated continuity of care to students with mental disabilities.

AB 2809 (Rodriguez) Developmental services regional centers
Died on the Senate Inactive file

This bill would have required regional centers to provide documents about appeals and complaint processes in the threshold language(s) of a consumer, the consumer's family, and other specified individuals and would have also required that a consumer's annual summary of services be provided in the threshold language of the consumer or his or her legal guardian, upon request.

ACR 77 (Mark Stone) California Early Intervention Services Act
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Res. Chapter 154, Statutes of 2015

This concurrent resolution makes a number of findings and declarations related to child development and the importance of early behavioral interventions, and it resolves that every child in California deserves periodic formal assessment of his or her development for the purposes of introducing supports and services if needed, and that those supports and services should be easily accessible and responsive to a child's needs. This resolution also calls on the Legislature to leverage existing efforts and statutes to ensure an accountable, results-oriented, and coordinated statewide network of resources, services, systems, and strong local infrastructures, along with investment in comprehensive health and early intervention services and supports, built upon existing efforts, in order to ensure that they meet the health and learning needs of California's diverse child population.

SB 490 (Beall) Regional centers: audits
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have increased audit and financial review thresholds for regional center vendors by deleting the requirement that an entity that received between \$250,000 and \$500,000 from one or more regional centers in a fiscal year obtain an audit or review of its financial statements and instead would have triggered the requirement for an independent audit or independent review report of an entity's financial statements when the amount received from regional centers was between \$500,000 and \$2 million during the entity's fiscal year. This bill also would have permitted an entity that obtained an independent audit or independent review based on regional center payments of between \$500,000 and \$2 million to request a two-year exemption if the regional center did not find issues in the prior year's audit or review that had an impact on regional center services.

SB 982 (McGuire) State Department of Developmental Services: developmental centers
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 586, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to seek to modify the existing contract for a longitudinal study in order to collect data on the quality of life of residents of the Sonoma Developmental Center (DC), the Fairview DC, and the general treatment area of the Porterville DC who transition out of the facilities to a community setting due the closure of these centers. This bill also requires that DDS annually submit interim reports to the Legislature, which must include information about consumer and family satisfaction and adequacy of community services, and to submit the final study, once completed, to the Legislature.

SB 1226 (Beall) Regional centers: audits and reviews
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 429, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires a regional center to submit copies of all independent audit reports received to Department of Developmental Services (DDS) for review and further, requires DDS to compile data, by regional center, on vendor compliance with audit requirements and opinions resulting from audit reports, and to publish this data annually on the performance dashboard. This bill also requires, as of January 1, 2018, that the amount of money a vendor receives from a regional center in the state's fiscal year, versus an entity's fiscal year as previously required by law, be used to determine if a

SB 1226 (Beall) (continued)

vendor is required to submit a review or audit report. This bill clarifies that, as of January 1, 2018, the period of time for which a vendor shall obtain either the independent review report or the independent audit of its financial statements, as applicable, is the entity's fiscal year that includes the last day of the most recent state fiscal year.

**SB 1427 (Pavley) Workforce development: developmentally disabled individuals
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File**

This bill would have required the Department of Developmental Services to, by July 1, 2017, establish a Work Transition Project to facilitate delivery of integrated services and assist in the state's compliance with federal regulations per the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver.

HOMELESS YOUTH

**AB 801 (Bloom) Postsecondary education: Success for Homeless Youth in Higher Education
Act**

Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 432, Statutes of 2016

This bill establishes the Success for Homeless Youth in Higher Education Act, which, among other things: extends priority enrollment to homeless youth at the California Community Colleges and the California State University and encourages the University of California to provide this same extension; requires designation of a Homeless and Foster Student Liaison at each postsecondary educational institution participating in the Cal Grant program; and adds homeless youth to the categories of youth to be served under existing financial aid programs and services.

**AB 1225 (Weber) Housing: former nonminor dependents: homeless youth
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)**

This bill would have expanded eligibility for transitional housing to former nonminor dependents with special needs and to homeless youth.

**AB 1699 (Kim) Homeless youth emergency services projects
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File**

This bill would have added transitional living services for homeless youth ages 18 to 24, for a period of up to 36 months, to the list of required services to be provided by homeless youth emergency service projects. This bill also would have required the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to establish additional homeless youth emergency service projects in other counties, with a priority given to counties that lack existing services for runaway and homeless youth, and would have appropriated \$25 million from the General Fund for these purposes. This bill would have required OES to, with the input of stakeholders, develop criteria for the selection of grantees and determination of grant amounts, and would have additionally required OES to prepare and disseminate requests for proposals for these new projects by March 31, 2017.

AB 2256 (Maienschein) Homelessness: report
Died in the Senate Rules Committee

This bill would have required certain homeless services providers to submit an annual report to the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHSA) containing certain data regarding homeless children, youth and adults, including, among other things: the number of ambulance rides, the number and length of hospital stays, and the number of emergency room visits. This bill would have required that the data were submitted in an open format that met certain criteria in order to make the information available, accessible, and as accurate as practicable. This bill would have also required that data provided to CHHSA were published on the California Health and Human Services Open Data Portal.

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

AB 97 (Weber) In-home supportive services: provider wages
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have required reprogramming of the Case Management Information and Payrolling System for In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) to enable IHSS recipients in Coordinated Care Initiative counties to receive additional services authorized and paid for by managed care health plans.

AB 211 (Gomez) In-home supportive services
Died on the Senate Inactive File

This bill would have disconnected implementation of the Statewide Authority for collective bargaining within the In-Home Support Services (IHSS) program from the state's Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) by requiring the IHSS Statewide Authority to assume collective bargaining responsibility for IHSS providers in all 58 counties, beginning January 1, 2016, and by deleting the requirement that those activities be conditioned upon implementation of the CCI and therefore subject to the timeline and other restrictions within the CCI demonstration project. This bill also would have deleted the authority of the Director of Finance to terminate the Statewide Authority or its collective bargaining responsibilities if the CCI demonstration project was terminated due to not generating anticipated General Fund savings, and would have made permanent counties' IHSS maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements outlined in the CCI.

AB 470 (Chu) In-home supportive services: fingerprinting

(Note: This bill as heard in the Assembly Human Services Committee related to In-Home Supportive Services. The bill as amended on May 9, 2016, related to: Public health: pools: drownings. Vetoed by the Governor.)

Summary of the bill as heard in the Assembly Human Services Committee:

This bill would have required the Department of Justice (DOJ), in collaboration with the Department of Social Services, to develop protocols to expedite the processing of provider criminal background checks for In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) by October 1, 2016. This bill also would have

AB 470 (Chu) (continued)

authorized the development of these protocols to be funded through moneys appropriated by the Legislature to the DOJ for the purpose of conducting IHSS prospective provider criminal record check activities.

**AB 782 (Dababneh) Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File**

This bill would have expanded the Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act to cover home care aide domestic referral agencies, thereby applying many of the same requirements to these agencies that the law currently applies to home care organizations (as of implementation on January 1, 2016), including but not limited to requiring independent home care aides to be listed and cleared on the home care aide registry administered by the Department of Social Services (DSS) (which requires background clearance and a determination that the aide is free of active tuberculosis), and specifying requirements to be met by a home care aide domestic referral agency in order to obtain licensure, and the grounds on which DSS may deny, suspend, or revoke a home care aide domestic referral agency license. This bill also would have delineated a number of requirements for home care aide domestic referral agencies, including that such an agency shall not include an employment agency for a home care aide domestic referral agency, as defined, and that such an agency shall communicate specific information to prospective and current clients regarding the nature of the employment relationship and possible responsibilities involved. The bill also would have set forth a number of requirements for home care aides referred by home care aide domestic referral agencies, including that such aides complete an annual proficiency exam on specified topics and provide references, unless exempted for specified purposes.

**AB 1436 (Burke) In-home supportive services: authorized representative
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 707, Statutes of 2015**

This bill allows an In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) applicant or recipient to designate an authorized representative in order to represent that applicant or recipient for purposes related to the IHSS program, and it specifies that an IHSS applicant or recipient shall determine the duties to be provided by the authorized representative and that these duties may be changed or revoked at any time by the applicant or recipient. This bill directs the Department of Social Services, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop a standardized statewide form and procedures related to the designation of an authorized representative, and requires counties to retain this form in the applicant's or recipient's case file. This bill also provides for certain limitations on the duties that may be performed by an authorized representative and certain prohibitions on who can serve as an authorized representative. Finally, this bill requires the authorized representative to act in the client's best interest.

**AB 1667 (Dodd) Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act
Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File**

This bill would have expanded the Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act to cover home care aide domestic referral agencies, thereby applying many of the same requirements to these agencies that the law currently applies to home care organizations (as of implementation on

AB 1667 (Dodd) (continued)

January 1, 2016), including but not limited to requiring independent home care aides to be listed and cleared on the home care aide registry administered by the Department of Social Services (DSS) (which requires background clearance and a determination that the aide is free of active tuberculosis), and specifying requirements to be met by a home care aide domestic referral agency in order to obtain licensure, and the grounds on which DSS may deny, suspend, or revoke a home care aide domestic referral agency license. This bill also would have delineated a number of requirements for home care aide domestic referral agencies, including that such an agency shall not include an employment agency for a home care aide domestic referral agency, as defined, and that such an agency shall communicate specific information to prospective and current clients regarding the nature of the employment relationship and possible responsibilities involved. The bill also would have set forth a number of requirements for home care aides referred by home care aide domestic referral agencies, including that such aides complete an annual proficiency exam on specified topics and provide references, unless exempted for specified purposes.

AB 1797 (Lackey) In-home supportive services: application
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 402, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires the county, upon receipt of an application for In-Home Supportive Services, to provide the applicant with a confirmation number, and permits that confirmation number to be the individual's case number.

AB 1930 (Lackey) In-home supportive services: family caregivers: advisory committee
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have established the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Family Caregiver Benefits Advisory Committee for the purpose of studying, and providing a report on, employment-based supports and protections as they pertain to IHSS providers.

AB 2158 (Wagner) Home care services: in-home supportive services: registration and training
Died in the Assembly Human Services Committee (not heard)

This bill would have required independent In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) providers to be listed on the state's home care aide registry administered by the Department of Social Services and would have required independent IHSS providers to complete the same mandated entry-level and annual training currently required of other home care aides listed on the registry.

SB 199 (Hall) In-home supportive services: reading services for blind and visually impaired recipients
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have added up to two hours per month of assistance in reading and completing financial and other documents to the services that can be provided to a blind recipient of In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), to the extent federal financial participation is available for this purpose. This bill would have further required the director of the Department of Health Care Services to seek all federal approvals necessary to ensure that Medicaid funds could be used for reading and document completion services for blind IHSS recipients by January 1, 2017.

PUBLIC SERVICES/OTHER HUMAN SERVICES

AB 282 (Eggman) Accessible window coverings

Died in the Senate Business, Professions & Economic Development Committee

This bill would have stated the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to adopt standards that provide for safer window coverings in the state in order to protect children from the strangulation hazard posed by cords on window coverings.

AB 474 (Brown) Public social services: SSI/SSP

Died in the Assembly Budget Committee

This bill would have required the state maximum State Supplementary Payment (SSP) grant amount for individuals to be readjusted and increased annually, beginning with the 2015-16 fiscal year, so that the combined total of the federal Supplemental Security Income payment and the SSP payment equal 112% of the federal poverty level.

AB 891 (Campos) Pupil services: transportation

Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have entitled a student eligible for free or reduced-price meals, or who attended a school that participated in the Community Eligibility Option, to free transportation to and from school if the student lived more than one-half mile from school or if the neighborhood through which the student had to travel was deemed unsafe. This bill would have required a local educational agency (LEA) to designate a liaison responsible for implementing a plan, developed in consultation with stakeholders, to ensure that students entitled to free transportation receive that transportation in a timely manner, and it would have required the designated liaison to be trained to identify and accommodate the special rights of homeless youth and students in a CalWORKs assistance unit where aid is provided only to the child. This bill also would have required the transportation plan to address the ability of students to make regular visits to the public library and to be provided using an LEA's existing funds, should free, dependable, and timely transportation not be available to students entitled to it.

AB 1584 (Brown) Public social services: SSI/SSP

Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have reinstated, as of January 1, 2018, the cost-of-living adjustment for the State Supplementary Program for the Aged, Blind and Disabled.

AB 1760 (Santiago) Human trafficking

Died on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would have required that the administrator certification programs for group homes and for short-term residential treatment centers, mandatory training for licensed or certified foster parents, and training for mandated child abuse reporters and child welfare personnel include instruction on

AB 1760 (Santiago) (continued)

cultural competency and sensitivity and related best practices for providing adequate care to child trafficking victims. This bill also would have required peace officers who come into contact with victims or suspected victims of human trafficking to seek assistance from human trafficking experts to determine if the child is a victim of trafficking, and to provide that determination to the district attorney. Under the provisions of this bill, a peace officer also would have been required to report suspected abuse or neglect of a minor who was suspected to be a victim of human trafficking and to work with a child welfare worker to locate a safe placement for the minor. This bill also would have required the Commission on Peace Officer Standards Training to update its training to include instruction on law enforcement responsibilities as it pertains to determining the status of children as human trafficking victims. The bill also would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS), in consultation with the California Child Welfare Council, the State Department of Health Care Services, the Children and Family Services Division of the State Department of Social Services, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the Division of Juvenile Justice, and the State Department of Education, and any other related stakeholders, to submit a report to the Legislature no later than July 1, 2018, detailing existing efforts underway to address labor trafficking of minors and a detailed plan by DSS to address labor trafficking of minors.

AB 2015 (McCarty) Public social services: 2011 realignment report
Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 182, Statutes of 2016

This bill deletes language making the requirement for the annual 2011 realignment report to the Legislature to include certain information (i.e., fund allocation, social worker caseloads, and authorized positions) conditional upon that information being readily or publically available and also requires the 2011 realignment report to include the following information: reported expenditures for counties that are participating in and making claims under the federal Title IV-E waiver; how waiver counties are maximizing the utilization of funds; and how close counties are to funding the recommended optimum caseloads.

AB 2099 (Mark Stone) Safe drinking water
Died in the Senate Appropriations Committee

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services (DSS), by February 1, 2017, to convene a workgroup consisting of specified entities to develop recommendations for the delivery of a water benefit to low-income houses with inadequate access to safe drinking water in order to supplement the purchase of drinking water and, further, would have required the water benefit to be made available to low-income households with inadequate access to safe drinking water; provided through the EBT system, to the extent possible; and funded from existing emergency drought response resources, to the extent possible. This bill would have required that the recommendations developed by the workgroup include the design of the benefit, an implementation plan, and possibilities for interim or permanent adoption and implementation through regulations, all-county letters, or similar instruction. This bill also would have required DSS to submit a report with the recommendations developed pursuant to this bill to the Legislature and the California Health and Human Services Agency by July 1, 2017, and would have sunset the provisions of the bill on July 1, 2021.

AB 2346 (Baker) Public social services: hearings
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 522, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires certain position statements related to state hearings to be made available via United States mail, or, upon request, through electronic means. If delivery of a position statement through electronic means is requested, the bill requires that the position statement be delivered through secure electronic means if required by state or federal privacy laws. This bill exempts a private or public agency from being required to make a copy of its position statement available to an applicant or recipient through electronic means if the agency submits a report to the Department of Social Services (DSS) no later than December 31 of each year detailing barriers faced by the agency that prevent the agency from providing hearing documents electronically, and the steps being taken by the agency to address these barriers. Finally, this bill makes the provisions of this legislation inoperative on the date that the statewide electronic case management system administered by DSS becomes operational and is capable of providing electronic position statements to claimants.

AB 2565 (Salas) Independent Living Centers: state funding
Died on the Senate Appropriations Suspense file

This bill would have deleted provisions of existing law that exempted independent living centers (ILCs) that were established and maintained using federal funds under the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 from receiving funds of at least \$235,000 in base grant funding allocated by the department and appropriated by the Legislature. The bill also would have deleted existing law that requires the department to allocate supplemental grant funds to those centers that receive federal funds that total less than \$235,000. This bill would have required that each ILC receive at least \$250,000 in base grant funds allocated by the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) to the extent that funds are appropriated by the Legislature and allocated by the department to the ILCs.

AB 2568 (Atkins) County integrated health and human services
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 469, Statutes of 2016

This bill authorizes the County of San Diego to, upon approval of the county board of supervisors and the California Health and Human Services Agency, operate an integrated and comprehensive health and human services system, and further, specifies the purview and requirements of this system.

AJR 22 (Mullin) Federal poverty level measurement
Chaptered by Secretary of State, Res. Chapter 195, Statutes of 2015

This resolution memorializes the California Legislature's request to the President of the United States and Congress to use the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) to guide the reform and updating of the Official Poverty Measure (OPM), citing among the deficiencies of the OPM that it is a one-size-fits-all policy that leads to a distorted perception of poverty and an inefficient allocation of resources to fight poverty, and among the benefits of using the SPM that it was designed to take into account changes in the United States economy over time, cost-of-living variations in different parts of the country, and the changing role of government.

SB 1040 (Hill) Postadoption instability: unlawful transfer of custody
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services, in consultation with various stakeholders including child advocacy organizations, the Judicial Council, and the office of the Attorney General, among others, to establish a working group to examine the unique challenges facing adoptive families and to identify resources within the community to assist families with these challenges. The bill also would have required the working group to meet no later than April 1, 2017, in order to develop recommendations that considered a number of specified factors and to submit a report to the Legislature no later than April 1, 2018, detailing the group's recommendations as to what services may be helpful to adoptive families.

SB 1060 (Leno) - Postadoption contact: siblings of dependent children or wards
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 719, Statutes of 2016

This bill requires the county placing agency to, insofar as is practicable, convene a meeting with a child, siblings of the child, prospective adoptive parent or parents, and a facilitator in order to decide whether or not to voluntarily execute a postadoption sibling contact agreement. This bill also states that the meeting is not required to occur if the court both determines by a preponderance of the evidence that a postadoption sibling contact agreement or the meeting is contrary to the safety and well-being of the child and notes the determination in the court order.

SB 1339 (Monning) Public social services: intercounty transfers
Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter 801, Statutes of 2016

This bill clarifies the existing process that counties must follow when a recipient of public assistance benefits, including CalWORKs, CalFresh, and Medi-Cal, moves between counties. Specifically, this bill requires recipients to notify either county of a change in residence, and grants recipients the right to make such notification in writing, over the telephone, or electronically as available. This bill also requires the notified county to initiate a simple and client-friendly intercounty transfer for all benefits that the recipient is receiving within seven days of notice of a new residence, and requires benefits to begin no later than the first day of the month following 30 days after a county has been notified of a change in residence. This bill clarifies the process through which counties may share electronic files with other counties, prevents recipients of certain benefits from having to re-apply for public benefits to the extent permissible by federal law and regulation, and clarifies the way in which certain beneficiaries of Medi-Cal receive services. Finally, this bill makes technical and clarifying changes and makes inoperative on June 1, 2017, certain provisions of existing law as they pertain to the intercounty transfer process.

SB 1466 (Mitchell) Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program: trauma screening
Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have required that screening services provided under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program include screening for trauma as consistent with

AB 1466 (Mitchell) (continued)

protocols developed by the Department of Health Care Services, and would have defined trauma to mean an event, series of events, or set of circumstances that was experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or threatening and that had lasting adverse effects on the individual's functioning and physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being.

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGES

AB 74 (Ian C. Calderon) Child care facilities: regulatory visits

I am returning Assembly Bill 74 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Social Services to inspect licensed child care facilities once a year beginning January 1, 2019.

Earlier this year, the 2015-16 Budget Act increased the frequency of inspections of licensed child care facilities to once every three years. Further increasing the frequency of these inspections may be a worthy goal, but the cost of this change should be considered in the budget process.

AB 97 (Weber) In-home supportive services: provider wages

I am returning Assembly Bill 97 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Social Services to reprogram the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) payroll system so that paychecks issued by the system would include payment for home care service hours authorized by both IHSS and managed health care plans.

While I support streamlining the payment system for home care service workers, we have yet to find a permanent fund source to restore the seven percent reduction in recipients' authorized hours. When that fiscal uncertainty has been resolved, I would be open to reconsidering the policy in this bill.

AB 371 (Mullin) CalWORKs: Family Unity Act of 2015

I am returning Assembly Bill 371 without my signature.

This bill would remove "deprivation" as one of the eligibility requirements for families applying to the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program.

The elimination of this policy and its annual cost should be considered in the budget process.

AB 376 (Lopez) CalWORKs eligibility: immunizations

I am returning Assembly Bill 376 without my signature.

This bill would allow counties to use the California Immunization Registry to verify that immunization requirements for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids program

AB 376 (Lopez) (continued)

have been met prior to requesting this information from applicants. Counties already have access to this Registry and many already use it. Accordingly, this bill is unnecessary.

AB 470 (Chu) In-home supportive services: fingerprinting

(Note: This bill as introduced relates to IHSS. The bill as amended on May 9, 2016 in the Senate Human Services relates to: Public health: pools: drownings.)

I am returning Assembly Bill 470 without my signature.

This bill requires newly constructed or remodeled swimming pools at single-family homes to use at least two of seven drowning-prevention safety features, instead of one, as currently mandated.

Nothing prevents a homeowner from adding as many additional safety features as they desire to their own pool. The choice on how to protect children is best left to the parents.

AB 1930 (Lackey) In-home supportive services: family caregivers: advisory committee

I am returning Assembly Bill 1930 without my signature.

This bill establishes an advisory committee within the Department of Social Services to study and report to the Legislature on issues related to employee contributions to Social Security benefits, Medicare and unemployment benefits for In-Home Supportive Services family providers. The In-Home Supportive Services Stakeholder Advisory Committee, with its composition of consumers, providers, labor representatives and advocates, has the ability and expertise to examine these issues and produce information necessary to advise the departments involved as well as the Legislature on this topic.

AB 2005 (Ridley-Thomas): Juveniles: out-of-state placement

I am returning Assembly Bill 2005 without my signature.

This bill creates a new evidentiary standard that must be met before a court can accept the recommendation of a probation department to place a juvenile in an out-of-state home or treatment facility.

I agree that out-of-state placements should be a last resort. In fact, the required case plan that probation must present to the court prior to such a placement being ordered must already show that in-state options have been exhausted or are not in the best interest of the child.

Last year I signed the Continuum of Care Reform Initiative into law. These reforms will drastically overhaul our system of housing youth under state care for the better, prioritizing in-home and smaller group placements wherever possible. Let's give this landmark effort some time to work before we pursue additional changes.

AB 2448 (Burke) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: education

I am returning Assembly Bill 2448 without my signature.

This bill suspends the CalWORKs 24-month time clock for up to 12 months for recipients actively seeking their high school diploma or equivalent.

There is flexibility in this program which allows counties to extend the 24-month clock on a case-by-case basis for recipients making progress toward their high school diploma. I am not convinced that a state level suspension as called for in this bill is necessary.

Governor's veto message regarding five Assembly bills

I am returning the following five bills without my signature:

AB 492 (Gonzalez) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: supportive services

AB 885 (Lopez) Foster youth

AB 1584 (Brown) Public social services: SSI/SSP

AB 1770 (Alejo) Food assistance program: eligibility

AB 1838 (Ting) Foster care: infant supplement

Each of these bills make changes to a worthy program that results in increased funding, a few of which received increases in this year's budget. These bills are an end run of the budget process, and would commit us to spending an additional \$240 million every year.

The budget process allows for all spending proposals to be weighed equally through public hearings, negotiations and, finally, approval of a balanced budget. This is the best way to evaluate and prioritize all new spending proposals, including those that increase the cost of existing programs. This process is even more important when the state's budget is precariously balanced.

The budget process begins again on January 10, 2017, which is the appropriate time to discuss these proposals.

SB 199 (Hall) In-home supportive services: reading services for blind and visually impaired recipients

I am returning Senate Bill 199 without my signature.

This bill would authorize, for blind In-Home Supportive Services recipients, up to two hours per month of assistance in completing financial documents.

Before considering any expansion in this program, the state must find a permanent funding source to support the hours and activities that are authorized under current law.

SB 253 (Monning) Juveniles: psychotropic medication

I am returning Senate Bill 253 without my signature.

This bill adds more requirements for juvenile court authorization and oversight of psychotropic medications for children in the child welfare and probation systems.

Last year, I signed a bill that required the Judicial Council, working with stakeholders, to amend and adopt rules of court and forms to help judges determine whether to authorize the use of psychotropic medications. These new rules and forms took effect July 1, 2016, and require significantly more information to be submitted to the court. Until we know the impact of these changes, it is premature to legislate additional measures.

SB 475 (Monning) Continuing care contracts: cancellation: payments

I am returning Senate Bill 475 without my signature.

This bill would change the way Continuing Care Retirement Communities repay a resident's entrance fee under the purchase contract, and establish interest penalties if repayment is not made and the unit has not been resold within a time certain. The bill would also establish a process at the Department of Social Services to investigate whether a good faith effort was made to resell the unit.

As California's aging population continues to grow, the need for elder care and housing options will also increase. One of the options is Continuing Care Retirement Communities, which provide retirees with housing and varying levels of care and services throughout the remainder of their lives.

While it is important that residents who buy into these communities be treated fairly, this bill would change the terms of contracts entered into by willing participants. It would also insert the department into the resolution of contract disputes. For these reasons, I am not signing this bill.

SB 548 (De León) Child care: family child care providers: orientation training

Senate Bill 548 establishes training requirements for both licensed and license-exempt family child care providers and requires both the Department of Social Services and the Department of Education to collect and deliver providers' personal information to provider organizations, upon their request.

I am returning SB 548 without my signature, because the bill prematurely anticipates what will be necessary to comply with the new federal Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014.

California will need to be in compliance with an abundance of new requirements, not all of which are clear at this juncture. The Department of Education is currently working with stakeholders to update our state's plan, to be submitted by March 1, 2016, after further federal guidance is issued. Public input will be sought prior to the finalization of the plan.

As part of that work, I will direct the State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care to work with the department and review how the state can best position itself to meet those requirements efficiently and effectively, including the delivery of any training.

SB 1040 (Hill) Postadoption instability: unlawful transfer of custody

I am returning Senate Bill 1040 without my signature.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to convene a work group to review challenges faced by families with children adopted from the foster care system, children adopted with special needs, or internationally adopted children.

The intent of this bill is to prevent the transfer of these children from one home to another outside of the adoption process. Rather than establishing another work group, I believe that these issues should be handled by the Department of Social Services in the normal course of its work on adoptions with counties, adoption agencies and interested stakeholders.

SB 1466 (Mitchell) Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program: trauma screening

I am returning Senate Bill 1466 without my signature.

This bill establishes a new trauma screening entitlement for every child on Medi-Cal.

Medi-Cal has grown from 8 million to 14 million beneficiaries since our implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act and provides coverage for over 5 million children. Given this dramatic expansion, I am reluctant to create another entitlement as required by this bill.