

Assembly Committee on Human Services

# 2023-24

# Legislative Bill Summary

Honorable Alex Lee, Chair



# CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

## Assembly Committee on Human Services

### 2023-24 Legislative Bill Summary

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November 2024

The Assembly Committee on Human Services prepares a comprehensive legislative report after each legislative session. During the 2023-24 Legislative Session, this Committee was responsible for analyzing bills that impacted programs and services for some of the state's most vulnerable populations, including children, people with disabilities, low-income families, older adults, and immigrants. Brief highlights of policy discussions considered by this Committee during 2023-24 are below then followed by more detailed summaries and statuses of the bills referred to this Committee.

**CalFresh and Food Assistance.** The Committee reviewed a number of bills focused on improving food access and security including revised reporting for the California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot Project, establishing the right to affordable, healthy food as state policy, and pre-enrollment of eligible incarcerated individuals into CalFresh prior to release. Other bills sought to establish a comprehensive End Hunger Task Force, appoint a Food Insecurity Officer, implement automatic enrollment for seniors in CalFresh, expand California Food Assistance Program eligibility, and enhance demographic data collection within CalFresh.

**CalWORKs and Cash Assistance.** The Committee heard several bills seeking to expand and reduce barriers for CalWORKs and Cash Assistance recipients including pregnant individuals, students, and individuals experiencing homelessness. Other notable bills included efforts to shift historical negative stigmas and connotations associated with accessing CalWORKs and Cash Assistance as well as efforts to ensure recipients have transportation to work-related activities.

**Child Support.** The Committee heard a range of bills addressing the alignment of state policies with federal guidelines as well as seeking to end the enforcement of arrearages from parents for reimbursement of foster care placements.

**Child Welfare Services and Foster Care.** A significant number of bills were considered by the Committee to improve the conditions and outcomes for foster youth. Topics ranged from addressing barriers to reunification services, expanding family-finding efforts, securing housing supplements, and increasing services within extended foster care program. Efforts were made to ensure Social Security benefits are sent to foster youth instead of counties, while other bills focused on securing

data and transparency related to the use of seclusion and restraints in facilities where foster youth reside. Additional bills were considered to increase the penalties for counties who knowingly place foster youth in unlicensed settings, and ensuring there is data on the effectiveness of court-ordered parenting classes.

**Childcare and Early Childhood Education.** The Committee reviewed several bills aimed at improving childcare health and safety, access, and regulatory standards. Key topics included addressing children’s camp safety, health assessments for drop-in childcare, CalWORKs childcare eligibility, anaphylactic response training, pool safety, and support for at-risk families securing childcare. Other bills sought to expand subsidized childcare eligibility, introduce fire clearance and filtered water requirements for daycare facilities, and improve resources and flexibility for working families’ childcare needs.

**Congregate Care.** As the older adult population continues to grow, this Committee analyzed bills that impacted licensed facilities providing care to the aging population. Notably, protecting residents against rising costs and expanding capacity at licensed facilities was a common theme.

**Developmental Services.** The Developmental Services delivery system continues to be an interest in the Legislature. Namely, ensuring services are provided in an equitable manner. This session there were several bills proposing opportunities to create equity across all 21 Regional Centers including provider rates, respite services, and access to the Self-Determination Program.

**Guaranteed Income.** The Committee reviewed several proposals that aimed to establish guaranteed income programs. Topics included a feasibility study to explore the implementation of a statewide guaranteed income program as well as providing four months of \$1,000 payments to homeless 12th-grade students through the California SOAR Program.

**Homelessness.** While the State continues to address homelessness, this Committee considers proposals to ensure necessary services are available. The Committee heard several bills to address disproportionality within the LGBTQ+ community as it relates to homelessness. Other bills aimed to target at-risk homeless foster youth, expand the make-up of agencies overseeing homelessness, and sought to make pilot programs addressing the needs of the homeless population permanent.

**Immigration Services.** The Committee reviewed several bills focused on ensuring immigrants have access to social services. These proposals addressed enhancing legal and bilingual services, broadening the One California program, expanding eligibility for asylee and noncitizen support programs, removing age limits on food assistance for noncitizens, and establishing an Office of Language Access for limited-English speakers. Another bill targeted special immigrant juvenile status by ensuring expedited court processing and allowing parent guardianship.

**Oversight and Informational Hearings.** In addition to hearing bills, this Committee held three oversight and informational hearings this Session. Summaries

of each hearing can be found at the end of this report.

An electronic copy of this document is available under the "Publications" tab on the Committee's web page at <http://ahum.assembly.ca.gov>.

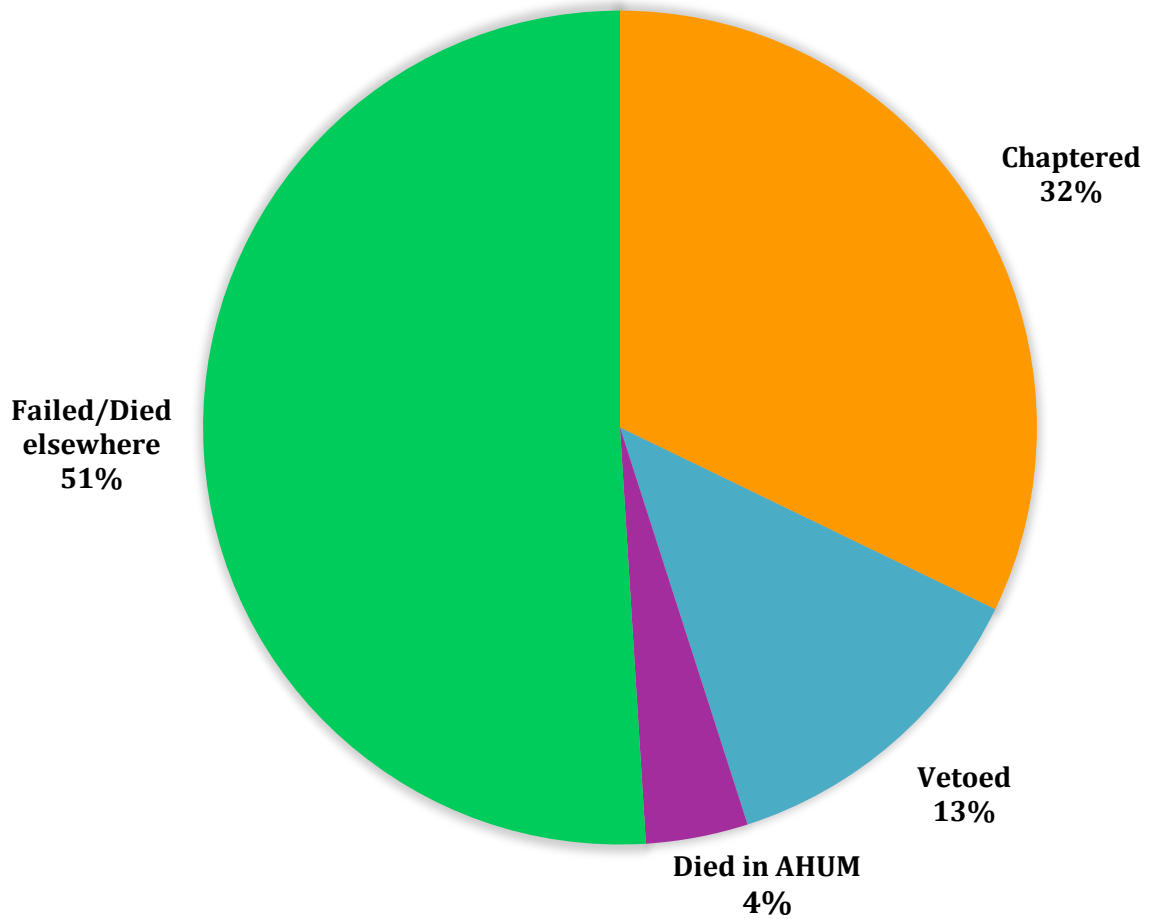
Copies of analyses prepared by the Committee may be obtained by accessing the California Legislative Information internet website maintained by the Legislative Counsel at [www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Lee", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Alex Lee, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Human Services

**DISPOSITION OF BILLS ASSIGNED TO THE ASSEMBLY  
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES IN 2023-24**



**Acronyms used in this report are as follows:**

Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC)  
Alternative Payment Program (APP)  
California Community Colleges (CCCs)  
California Department of Education (CDE)  
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)  
California Department of Social Services (CDSS)  
California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS)  
California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH)  
California State Automated Welfare System (CalSAWS)  
California State Preschool Program (CSPP)  
California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)  
Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI)  
Department of Developmental Services (DDS)  
Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS)  
Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT)  
In Home Supportive Services (IHSS)  
Nonminor Dependent (NMD)  
Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE)  
Short-term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs)  
State Supplementary Payment (SSP)  
Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP)  
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)  
Welfare-to-Work (WTW)

<b>CalFresh and Food Assistance .....</b>	<b>15</b>
AB 311 (Santiago) - California Food Assistance Program: eligibility and benefits. ....	15
AB 518 (Wicks) - CalFresh: data .....	15
AB 605 (Arambula) - California Fruit and Vegetable Supplemental Benefits Expansion Program. ....	15
AB 712 (Wendy Carrillo) - CalFresh: hot and prepared foods.....	15
AB 843 (Juan Carrillo) - Electronic benefits transfer system.....	15
AB 866 (Blanca Rubio) - Food assistance for nonminor dependents.....	16
AB 922 (Wicks) - Prepared Meals Delivery Program.....	16
AB 928 (Reyes) - CalFresh Data Dashboard: students.....	17
AB 1961 (Wicks) - End Hunger in California Act of 2024.....	17
AB 1967 (Jackson) - Food Insecurity Officer.....	18
AB 1968 (Jackson) - CalFresh: enrollment for senior citizens.....	18
AB 3229 (Lee) - California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot Project: report. ....	19
SB 348 (Skinner) - Pupil meals.....	19
SB 435 (Gonzalez) - Collection of demographic data: CalFresh program and State Department of Public Health.....	19
SB 600 (Menjivar) - California CalFresh Minimum Benefit Adequacy Act of 2023.....	20
SB 628 (Hurtado) - State Healthy Food Access Policy.....	20
SB 1254 (Becker) - CalFresh: enrollment of incarcerated individuals.....	20
<b>CalWORKs and Cash Assistance .....</b>	<b>20</b>
AB 274 (Bryan) - CalWORKs: CalFresh: eligibility: income exclusions.....	20
AB 310 (Arambula) - CalWORKs.....	21
AB 372 (Stephanie Nguyen) - CalWORKs: eligibility: income exclusions. ....	21
AB 2141 (Gipson) - Cash assistance programs: direct deposit.....	22
AB 2452 (Quirk-Silva) - CalWORKs: supportive services.....	22
AB 2795 (Arambula) - CalWORKs Indian Health Clinic Program.....	22
SB 242 (Skinner) - California Hope, Opportunity, Perseverance, and Empowerment (HOPE) for Children Trust Account Program.....	22
SB 260 (Menjivar) - CalWORKs: aid payments. ....	23
SB 462 (Wahab) - General assistance. ....	23
SB 521 (Smallwood-Cuevas) - CalWORKs: pregnancy or parenting.....	23
SB 773 (Glazer) - CalWORKs: homeless assistance.....	23
SB 1396 (Alvarado-Gil) - CalWORKs: Home Visiting Program.....	24
SB 1415 (Glazer) - CalWORKs.....	24



<b>Child Support.....</b>	<b>24</b>
AB 1324 (Bryan) - Child welfare agencies: enforcement.....	24
SB 343 (Skinner) - Child support.....	25
<b>Child Welfare Services and Foster Care .....</b>	<b>25</b>
AB 20 (Gipson) - Postadoption contact agreements: reinstatement of parental rights. ....	25
AB 369 (Zbur) - Foster care: independent living. ....	26
AB 426 (Jackson) - Unlicensed residential foster care facilities: temporary placement management.....	26
AB 448 (Juan Carrillo) - Juveniles: relative placement: family finding. ....	26
AB 525 (Ting) - Foster youth: supervised independent living placement housing supplement.....	27
AB 551 (Bennett) - Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services: foster children.....	27
AB 867 (Friedman) - Foster youth.....	27
AB 937 (McKinnor) - Dependency: family reunification services. ....	28
AB 954 (Bryan) - Dependency: court-ordered services. ....	29
AB 1019 (Pellerin) - Child custody: counseling of parents and child. ....	29
AB 1112 (McKinnor) - Foster youth.....	29
AB 1134 (McKinnor) - Family reunification services.....	30
AB 1154 (Wilson) - Juveniles: mentoring programs.....	30
AB 1344 (Santiago) - Surviving child benefits. ....	30
AB 1506 (Quirk-Silva) - Foster youth. ....	30
AB 1512 (Bryan) - Foster care payments.....	31
AB 1522 (Cervantes) - Foster Care: LGBTQ youth.....	32
AB 1675 (Alanis) - Foster care: enrichment activities.....	32
AB 1799 (Jackson) - Child abuse: reporting.....	33
AB 1847 (Essayli) - Child welfare services: report.....	33
AB 1887 (Cervantes) - Student financial aid: application deadlines: extension. ....	33
AB 1907 (Pellerin) - California Child and Family Service Review System: Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment.....	33
AB 1913 (Addis) - Pupil safety: child abuse prevention: training.....	33
AB 1952 (Dixon) - Foster care: infant supplement. ....	33
AB 2108 (Ramos) - Foster care: missing children and nonminor dependents.....	33
AB 2137 (Quirk-Silva) - Homeless and foster youth.....	33
AB 2237 (Aguiar-Curry) - Children and youth: transfer of specialty mental health services.....	34

AB 2255 (Joe Patterson) - Adoption Assistance Program: eligibility.....	34
AB 2282 (McKinnor) - Family reunification services.....	34
AB 2459 (Wilson) - Juveniles: mentoring programs.....	34
AB 2477 (Zbur) - Foster care: independent living.....	34
AB 2496 (Pellerin) - Foster family agencies and noncustodial adoption agencies. ....	34
AB 2508 (McCarty) - Student financial aid: California Kids Investment and Development Savings (KIDS) Program: foster youth.....	35
AB 2544 (Low) - Background checks.....	35
AB 2664 (Bryan) - Foster youth.....	35
AB 2674 (Schiavo) - The California Affordable and Foster Youth Housing Finance Innovation Act.....	35
AB 2752 (Calderon) - Juvenile court: visitation.....	35
AB 2802 (Maienschein) - Transitional housing placement providers.....	35
AB 2828 (Bains) - Child health and safety: “Have a Heart, Be a Star, Help Our Kids” license plate program.....	36
AB 2830 (Robert Rivas) - Foster care: relative placement: approval process. ....	36
AB 2884 (Hart) - Parenting classes working group.....	36
AB 2906 (Bryan) - Foster care payments.....	36
AB 2929 (Juan Carrillo) - Dependents: family finding.....	36
AB 2935 (Maienschein) - Foster children: consumer credit reports.....	36
AB 2941 (Grayson) - Parents and youth: helpline and online support.....	37
AB 2948 (Ramos) - Adoption Assistance Program: tribal court order.....	37
AB 3049 (Bryan) - Dependency: court hearings.....	37
AB 3103 (Quirk-Silva) - Dependent children: health screenings.....	37
AB 3145 (Bryan) - Family preservation services: standards.....	37
AB 3182 (Lackey) - Child abuse: social worker liability.....	37
AB 3217 (Bryan) - Juveniles: Justice Through Placing Foster Children with Families Act.....	37
AB 3223 (Wilson) - Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program.....	38
SB 9 (Cortese) - Raising the Age for Extended Foster Care Pilot Program Act of 2023. ....	38
SB 407 (Wiener) - Foster care: resource families.....	38
SB 408 (Ashby) - Foster youth with complex needs: regional health teams.....	38
SB 463 (Wahab) - Dependent children.....	38
SB 578 (Ashby) - Juvenile court: dependents: removal.....	38
SB 589 (Alvarado-Gil) - Foster youth: disaster aid assistance.....	39

SB 824 (Ashby) - Foster care.....	39
SB 1043 (Grove) - Short-term residential therapeutic programs: dashboard: seclusion or behavioral restraints. ....	39
SB 1322 (Wahab) - Foster youth: Chafee Educational and Training Vouchers Program..	39
<b>Childcare and Early Childhood Education .....</b>	<b>39</b>
AB 51 (Bonta) - Early childcare and education.....	39
AB 244 (Wilson) - Specialized Inclusivity Training for Childcare Staff Grant Program. ....	40
AB 262 (Holden) - Children’s camps: safety and regulation.....	40
AB 393 (Luz Rivas) - Childcare: dual language learners. ....	40
AB 555 (Juan Carrillo) - California state preschool programs. ....	40
AB 596 (Reyes) - Early learning and care: rate reform. ....	40
AB 679 (Wicks) - Family childcare homes: meals: reimbursement rates. ....	40
AB 772 (Jackson) - Child day care facilities. ....	40
AB 1038 (Reyes) - California state preschool programs: expulsion.....	41
AB 1352 (Bonta) - Childcare: statewide pilot policies: individualized county childcare subsidy plans. ....	41
AB 1808 (Stephanie Nguyen) - Childcare and development services: eligibility.....	41
AB 1925 (Rendon) - Childcare and development programs: eligibility.....	41
AB 2206 (Addis) - Child daycare facilities: fire clearance requirements. ....	41
AB 2317 (Stephanie Nguyen) - Child day care facilities: anaphylactic policy. ....	41
AB 2343 (Schiavo) - CalWORKs: childcare programs. ....	42
AB 2381 (Bonta) - California state preschool programs: reimbursement rates.....	42
AB 2476 (Bonta) - Childcare services: alternative payment programs. ....	43
AB 2671 (Weber) - Family daycare homes: filtered water. ....	43
AB 2732 (Papan) - Grant Information Act of 2018: internet web portal: climate-related grants: childcare sector. ....	43
AB 2774 (Grayson) - Childcare for Working Families Act.....	43
AB 2866 (Pellerin) - Pool safety: State Department of Social Services regulated facilities. ....	43
AB 2949 (Rendon) - Family childcare home education networks.....	43
AB 2982 (Reyes) - Prenatal-to-3 working group. ....	43
SB 380 (Limón) - Early learning and care: rate reform.....	44
SB 499 (Menjivar) - School facilities: School Extreme Heat Action Plan Act of 2023. ....	44
SB 722 (Ochoa Bogh) - Daycare facilities: incidental medical services plans.....	44
SB 1112 (Menjivar) - Medi-Cal: families with subsidized childcare.....	44

SB 1401 (Blakespear) - Family childcare home: United States Armed Forces. ....	44
<b>Congregate Care.....</b>	<b>44</b>
AB 770 (Kalra) - Residential care facilities for the elderly.....	44
AB 1911 (Reyes) - Residential care facilities: complaints.....	45
AB 1993 (Kalra) - Residential care facilities for the elderly: maximum number of residents.....	45
AB 2549 (Gallagher) – Patient visitation.....	45
AB 2650 (Zbur) - Licensed adult residential facilities and residential care facilities for the elderly: data collection.....	45
SB 875 (Glazer) - Health and care facilities: residential care facilities for the elderly: referral agencies.....	45
SB 1352 (Wahab) - Continuing care retirement communities.....	45
SB 1406 (Allen) - Residential care facilities for the elderly: resident services.....	45
<b>Developmental Services .....</b>	<b>46</b>
AB 248 (Mathis) - Individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities: The Dignity for All Act.....	46
AB 649 (Wilson) - Developmental services.....	46
AB 1147 (Addis) - Disability Equity and Accountability Act of 2023. ....	46
AB 1568 (Wood) - Developmental services: independent living skills services: rates.....	46
AB 1680 (Sanchez) - Developmental services:.....	46
AB 1876 (Jackson) - Developmental services: individual program plans and individual family service plans: remote meetings.....	46
AB 2360 (Rendon) - Developmental services: family services: counseling.....	46
AB 2383 (Wendy Carrillo) - State Department of Developmental Services: services for medically fragile children: training program. ....	47
AB 2423 (Mathis) - Developmental services: rates.....	47
AB 2510 (Arambula) - Dental care for people with developmental disabilities. ....	47
AB 3291 (Committee on Human Services) - Developmental services.....	47
SB 805 (Portantino) - Health care coverage: pervasive developmental disorders or autism.....	47
SB 1197 (Alvarado-Gil) - In-home respite services.....	47
SB 1281 (Menjivar) - Advancing Equity and Access in the Self-Determination Program Act.....	47
SB 1463 (Niello) - Developmental services: Self-Determination Program: Deputy Director of Self-Determination.....	48

<b>General Public Social Services.....</b>	<b>49</b>
AB 94 (Davies) - Administration of public social services: blocked telephone calls. ....	49
AB 366 (Petrie-Norris) - County human services agencies: workforce development. ....	49
AB 510 (Jackson) - Public social services: purposes.....	50
AB 870 (Arambula) - Public social services: benefits for students.....	50
AB 991 (Alvarez) - Public social services: reporting and verification.....	50
AB 1015 (Calderon) - Diaper and wipe distribution program.....	50
AB 1084 (Stephanie Nguyen) - Bilingual-Oriented Social Equity Services Grant Program. .....	51
AB 1274 (Connolly) - California Youth Empowerment Commission: civil service workforce.....	51
AB 1321 (Bonta) - California Coordinated Neighborhood and Community Services Grant Program.....	51
AB 1457 (Ortega) - Public social services: merit or civil service employee.....	52
AB 1514 (Reyes) - Public social services: student eligibility.....	52
AB 1786 (Rodriguez) - California Individual Assistance Act: California Local Assistance Act.....	52
AB 2020 (Bonta) - Survivors of Human Trafficking Support Act.....	52
AB 2033 (Reyes) - Public postsecondary education: electronic benefits transfer cards: basic needs services and resources.....	52
AB 2150 (Arambula) - Public social services: higher education.....	52
AB 2207 (Reyes) - State boards and commissions: representatives of older adults.....	52
AB 2241 (Alvarez) - Public social services: reporting and verification.....	53
AB 2818 (Mathis) - County jail: available social services.....	53
AB 3031 (Lee) - LGBTQ+ Commission.....	53
ACA 7 (Jackson) - Government preferences: interventions or programs: exceptions.....	54
SB 318 (Ochoa Bogh) - "2-1-1" information and referral network.....	54
<b>Guaranteed Income.....</b>	<b>54</b>
AB 2263 (Friedman) - The California Guaranteed Income Study and Funding Act.....	54
SB 333 (Cortese) - Homeless pupils: California Success, Opportunity, and Academic Resilience (SOAR) Guaranteed Income Program.....	55
<b>Homelessness.....</b>	<b>55</b>
AB 373 (Gipson) - Intersession programs: foster children and homeless youth: priority access.....	55
AB 589 (Boerner) - Homeless youth: transitional housing.....	55
AB 963 (Schiavo) - The End the Foster Care-to-Homelessness Pipeline Act.....	56

AB 1817 (Alanis) - Homeless youth.....	56
AB 1948 (Rendon) - Homeless multidisciplinary personnel teams. ....	57
AB 2007 (Boerner) - Homeless youth: transitional housing. ....	57
AB 2520 (Ramos) - Housing: youth-specific processes and coordinated entry systems...	57
SB 246 (Ochoa Bogh) - California Interagency Council on Homelessness.....	57
SB 456 (Menjivar) - Multifamily Housing Program: nonprofit corporations: homeless or at-risk youth.....	58
SB 491 (Durazo) - Public social services: county departments: mail programs. ....	58
SB 842 (Jones) - California Interagency Council on Homelessness. ....	58
SB 1443 (Jones) - California Interagency Council on Homelessness. ....	58
<b>Immigration Services .....</b>	<b>59</b>
AB 325 (Reyes) - Human services: noncitizen victims. ....	59
AB 435 (Cervantes) - Public social services: automated application process.....	59
AB 617 (Jones-Sawyer) - One California program.....	59
AB 1536 (Juan Carrillo) - Cash Assistance Program for Aged, Blind, and Disabled Immigrants. ....	59
AB 2031 (Jones-Sawyer) - One California program. ....	60
AB 2155 (Ting) - Bilingual-Oriented Social Equity Services Grant Program.....	60
AB 2218 (Santiago) - Enhanced Services for Asylees and Vulnerable Noncitizens (ESAVN) program. ....	61
AB 2224 (Santiago) - Human services: special immigrant juvenile status.....	61
AB 2415 (Juan Carrillo) - Cash assistance for aged, blind, and disabled immigrants.....	61
AJR 17 (Jackson) - Federal aid. ....	61
SB 85 (Wiener) - Immigration: case management and social services. ....	61
SB 245 (Hurtado) - California Food Assistance Program: eligibility and benefits. ....	62
SB 465 (Wahab) - Refugees.....	62
SB 831 (Caballero) - Department of Community Services and Development: pilot program: lawful permanent residents. ....	62
SB 1078 (Min) - Language access. ....	63
<b>In-Home Supportive Services and Home Care Services .....</b>	<b>63</b>
AB 1005 (Alvarez) - In-home supportive services: terminal illness diagnosis.....	63
AB 1387 (Ting) - In-Home Supportive Services Program: provider shortage: grant-based outreach program.....	63
AB 2704 (Zbur) - In-home supportive services: criminal background checks.....	63
AB 2819 (Bains) - In-home supportive services: collective bargaining penalty. ....	64

AB 3079 (Ting) - In-Home Supportive Services program: undocumented related providers..... 64

**Rehabilitation Services.....64**

AB 857 (Ortega) - Vocational services: formerly incarcerated persons..... 64

AB 3193 (Calderon) - State acquisitions of goods and services: rehabilitation services... 65

## CalFresh and Food Assistance

### **AB 311 (Santiago) - California Food Assistance Program: eligibility and benefits.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have expanded eligibility for the California Food Assistance Program to any individual whose immigration status is the sole basis for their ineligibility for CalFresh by removing the 55 years and older age limit on eligibility.

### **AB 518 (Wicks) - CalFresh: data.**

*Status: Chapter 910, Statutes of 2024*

Requires CDSS, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop a methodology to estimate the CalFresh participation rate in California and identify characteristics of Californians who are eligible for CalFresh benefits, but not receiving benefits; and, requires CDSS to identify data sharing opportunities with other state and local public entities.

### **AB 605 (Arambula) - California Fruit and Vegetable Supplemental Benefits Expansion Program.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have establishes the California Fruit and Vegetable Supplemental Benefit Expansion Program; would have created the Electronic Benefits Transfer Expansion Fund in the State Treasury; and, would have required CDSS to enroll authorized retailers to enable them to provide supplemental benefits to CalFresh recipients who purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, as specified.

### **AB 712 (Wendy Carrillo) - CalFresh: hot and prepared foods.**

*Status: Chapter 121, Statutes of 2023*

Requires CDSS to seek all available federal waivers and approvals necessary to maximize food choices for CalFresh recipients under federal law and guidance, including purchasing hot foods or hot food products ready for immediate consumption.

### **AB 843 (Juan Carrillo) - Electronic benefits transfer system.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have clarified CDSS' reporting and replacement protocol responsibilities when benefits issued via the EBT system is lost or stolen from a recipient; and, would have required a prompt replacement.

### **Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 843 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to promptly reimburse any benefits issued via the electronic benefits transfer (EBT) system when electronically stolen or lost, including cash and food benefits.



I appreciate the author's desire to remedy lost EBT cards, as these supports are important resources for the people that receive them. As such, CDSS has been working with counties since 2021 to implement policies to replace electronically stolen CalFresh benefits, and the department has taken several measures to prevent theft in the future. CDSS partners with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to conduct investigations against EBT fraud, blocks early morning and out-of-state ATM withdrawals unless requested, and provides client educational materials informing of the risks of electronic theft and prevention measures. Further, CDSS is launching the ebtEDGE mobile app this year, so cardholders can freeze their card, reset their PIN, and request a new card easily, and additionally will be replacing EBT cards with Chip EMV/Tap cards beginning May 2024.

This bill, however, would create a new mandate for CDSS to reimburse a wider scope of benefits beyond CalFresh, resulting in significant General Fund costs in the tens of millions annually that are not included in the state's budget. Additionally, this bill may create a state-reimbursable mandate for county welfare departments because it requires a higher level of service.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 866 (Blanca Rubio) - Food assistance for nonminor dependents.**

*Status: Chapter 936, Statutes of 2024*

Requires CDSS to establish a state-funded program to provide food assistance for NMDs residing in a SILP or a transitional living setting.

**AB 922 (Wicks) - Prepared Meals Delivery Program.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have established the Prepared Meals Delivery Program in Alameda County.

## **Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 922 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Social Services to establish a Prepared Meals Delivery Program for unhoused individuals and require Alameda County to participate.

I am supportive of efforts to transition our homeless population into supportive services, including access to treatment, food, and housing. Together with the Legislature, through both policy and budget actions, we have bolstered our state and local resources to help those who are homeless. This bill, however, is unfunded. Estimated costs to implement this bill are in the millions of dollars from the General Fund, depending on the number of counties that participate. This proposal should be considered as a part of our annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

### **AB 928 (Reyes) - CalFresh Data Dashboard: students.**

*Status: Chapter 168, Statutes of 2023*

Deletes the existing requirement that CDSS update the CalFresh Data Dashboard with certain information related to CalFresh utilization by college students over time, and instead requires the dashboard be updated on an annual basis.

### **AB 1961 (Wicks) - End Hunger in California Act of 2024.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required the California Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with specified agencies, to convene the End Hunger in California Master Plan Task Force to develop strategies for ensuring access to healthy and culturally relevant food for all Californians, and would have required the plan to be distributed by January 1, 2027.

## **Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1961 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to create the End Hunger in California Master Plan Task Force, composed of 25 members of specified organizations, to create the End Hunger in California Master Plan. The Plan would be made available to the Legislature and the public by January 1, 2027, or two years after an appropriation, whichever is later, and contain recommendations to address hunger and food deserts in California.

Tackling food insecurity is a priority of my Administration. There are currently multiple state programs focused on addressing this issue through the Office of Farm to Fork (Office) within CDFA, including programs that focus on increasing access to healthy foods for underserved communities, such as the California Nutrition Incentive Program. While I support the author's goal to address food insecurity in the state, the expansive scope of the proposed task force would be burdensome for CDFA to implement and would also result in ongoing General Fund costs that should be considered in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

### **AB 1967 (Jackson) - Food Insecurity Officer.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have established a Food Insecurity Officer within CDSS to coordinate and address food insecurity across state government operations.

### **AB 1968 (Jackson) - CalFresh: enrollment for senior citizens.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required CDSS to establish a system to automatically enroll in the CalFresh program individuals who meet eligibility requirements of the SSI/SSP, and to automatically enroll in the California Food Assistance Program individuals who meet eligibility requirements for the CAPI.

**AB 3229 (Lee) - California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot Project: report.**

*Status: Chapter 916, Statutes of 2024*

Revises and combines reporting deadlines for two Legislative reports on the California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot Project.

**SB 348 (Skinner) - Pupil meals.**

*Status: Chapter 600, Statutes of 2023*

Revises provisions related to school meals for needy pupils including Expanded Learning Opportunities Programs; and, requires CDE, in partnership with CDSS, to maximize participation in the federal Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for Children program.

**SB 435 (Gonzalez) - Collection of demographic data: CalFresh program and State Department of Public Health.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required CDSS and CDPH to include separate collection categories for each major Latino group, each major Mesoamerican Indigenous nation, and major Mesoamerican Indigenous language group when collecting demographic data, as specified.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 435 without my signature.

This bill would require the CalFresh program, within the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to use separate data collection categories for specified Latino groups, Mesoamerican Indigenous nations, and Mesoamerican Indigenous language groups when collecting and reporting demographic data.

Providing more detailed health and demographic information for Latino groups and Mesoamerican Indigenous nations is important to inform our services and supports and to help identify disparities. To this end, my Administration is actively monitoring and reviewing the United States Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) update to federal standards for collection and reporting of race and ethnicity information, and looks forward to engaging stakeholders in this effort. California is required to submit data to the federal government using these federal standards, and programs that receive federal funding must also use these standards. As such, implementing a different framework for data collection in California prior to the release of updated federal standards is premature.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**SB 600 (Menjivar) - California CalFresh Minimum Benefit Adequacy Act of 2023.**

*Status: Assembly Committee on Human Services hearing cancelled at the request of the Author.*

Would have established the California CalFresh Minimum Benefit Adequacy Act of 2023; and, would have required CDSS, upon the receipt of an appropriation, to create the CalFresh Minimum Benefit Program to provide additional state-funded CalFresh nutrition benefits to all eligible households who receive a minimum CalFresh monthly benefit, as provided.

**SB 628 (Hurtado) - State Healthy Food Access Policy.**

*Status: Chapter 879, Statutes of 2023*

Declares that it is the established policy of the state that every human being has the right to access sufficient, affordable, and healthy food and requires all relevant state agencies to consider this policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, and grant criteria when those policies,

**SB 1254 (Becker) - CalFresh: enrollment of incarcerated individuals.**

*Status: Chapter 456, Statutes of 2024*

Requires CDSS to submit applicable waivers to the federal government to allow for pre-enrollment of incarcerated individuals prior to their release from state prison or county jail; requires CDSS to partner with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and county jails to pre-enroll otherwise eligible applicants for the CalFresh program; and, requires CDSS to create a workgroup and recommendations for a state reentry process incorporating resources for transition from state prison or county jail to reentry into the community.

**CalWORKs and Cash Assistance**

**AB 274 (Bryan) - CalWORKs: CalFresh: eligibility: income exclusions.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have exempted grants, awards, scholarships, loans, or fellowship benefits used for educational purposes from income or resource considerations when determining eligibility for CalWORKs; and, would have expanded, to the extent federal law permits, CalFresh eligibility by requiring CDSS to use Temporary Assistance for Needy Families eligibility requirements to determine CalFresh eligibility.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 274 without my signature.

This bill would exempt any grant, award, scholarship, loan, or fellowship benefit received from consideration as income for purposes of determining eligibility for

California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) and CalFresh.

I appreciate the author's intent to support low-income individuals participating in educational programs. However, this bill does not limit the benefits identified to those used for educational purposes, which is out of compliance with federal laws. Further, this bill would result in ongoing costs in the millions of dollars annually, which should be considered in the budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 310 (Arambula) - CalWORKs.**

*Status:* This bill was amended substantially on August 14, 2024, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

As referred to this Committee, would have made various significant changes to the current CalWORKs Act and WTW requirements.

**AB 372 (Stephanie Nguyen) - CalWORKs: eligibility: income exclusions.**

*Status:* Vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Would have excluded specified income from apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship programs for the purposes of determining CalWORKs eligibility.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 372 without my signature.

This bill would exempt income up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) that is received from an apprenticeship or a pre-apprenticeship program approved by the Chief of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards for purposes of determining California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) eligibility.

I appreciate the author's intent to support low-income individuals participating in apprenticeship programs. However, this bill would result in ongoing costs of over

\$25 million annually, which should be considered as a part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 2141 (Gipson) - Cash assistance programs: direct deposit.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required an application for a cash assistance program to include information regarding the applicant's option to choose to have their funds directly deposited or be issued on an EBT card.

**AB 2452 (Quirk-Silva) - CalWORKs: supportive services.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have revised the transportation services provided to CalWORKs WTW participants.

**AB 2795 (Arambula) - CalWORKs Indian Health Clinic Program.**

*Status: Chapter 663, Statutes of 2024*

Establishes the CalWORKs Indian Health Clinic Program to provide grant funding to Indian Health Clinics providing substance abuse, mental health treatment services, and other related services authorized under CalWORKs.

**SB 242 (Skinner) - California Hope, Opportunity, Perseverance, and Empowerment (HOPE) for Children Trust Account Program.**

*Status: Chapter 1010, Statutes of 2024*

Revises the California Hope, Opportunity, Perseverance, and Empowerment (HOPE) Trust Account Program to exempt funds in trust accounts from means-tested programs and money judgments, imposes specified verifications, expands the HOPE Trust Account Program Board, and specifies notification requirements.

**SB 260 (Menjivar) - CalWORKs: aid payments.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have provided that, commencing on April 1, 2025, eligible menstruating CalWORKs recipients between 10 and 55 years of age are entitled to \$20 per month for menstrual products.

**SB 462 (Wahab) - General assistance.**

*Status: Chapter 110, Statutes of 2023*

Provides that restrictions related to the sharing of the personal information of people applying for or receiving county general assistance or general relief (GA/GR) do not prohibit the sharing of that information for purposes directly connect with the administration of GA/GR in any county or for purposes directly connect with the administration of public social services, as defined in current law.

**SB 521 (Smallwood-Cuevas) - CalWORKs: pregnancy or parenting.**

*Status: Chapter 615, Statutes of 2023*

Adds denial of reasonable accommodations for pregnant or parenting students to the list of conditions that may be considered good cause for not participating in CalWORKs WTW activities; and, expands the conditions that exempt a teen from the Cal-Learn Program and removes sanctions and case management referral for failure to participate, or as a result of noncompliance.

**SB 773 (Glazer) - CalWORKs: homeless assistance.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required counties, for purposes of determining eligibility for specified CalWORKs payments issued to prevent eviction, to include amounts from other subsidy programs as well as private support, when calculating a family's total monthly household income; and, would have required CDSS to collect specific, statewide data regarding homeless assistance and to establish a statewide stakeholder advisory group to develop specified recommendations to better support CalWORKs recipients in need of permanent housing.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 773 without my signature.

This bill would require counties to consider an expanded definition of income for purposes of calculating total monthly household income for CalWORKs Permanent Homeless Assistance (HA) Program eligibility. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) would be required to collect statewide data regarding HA and convene a statewide stakeholder advisory group.

I appreciate the author's intent to get more people at risk of homelessness into permanent housing. My Administration has made significant investments to combat



homelessness and provide housing supports. However, this bill would result in an ongoing annual fiscal impact to the state of more than a million dollars a year. These costs must be considered alongside other budgetary priorities as part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.  
For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**SB 1396 (Alvarado-Gil) - CalWORKs: Home Visiting Program.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have extended the duration of the CalWORKs' Home Visiting Program.

**SB 1415 (Glazer) - CalWORKs.**

*Status: Chapter 798, Statutes of 2024*

Requires counties, for purposes of determining eligibility for specified CalWORKs payments issued to prevent eviction, to include amounts from other subsidy programs as well as private support, when calculating a family's total monthly household income.

## **Child Support**

**AB 1324 (Bryan) - Child welfare agencies: enforcement.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) to identify all child support referrals made prior to January 1, 2023, for child welfare-involved youth; would have directed local child support agencies to cease enforcement of arrearages assigned to the state for the reimbursement of foster care placements; and, would have required DCSS to direct local child support agencies to seek modification of these orders when necessary to eliminate ongoing obligations, including the cancellation of all arrears owed to the state and any accrued interest.

**SB 343 (Skinner) - Child support.**

*Status: Chapter 213, Statutes of 2023*

Revises provisions related to court-ordered child support to be in compliance with federal guidelines.

**Child Welfare Services and Foster Care**

**AB 20 (Gipson) - Postadoption contact agreements: reinstatement of parental rights.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have expanded the instances that allow for youth, upon change of circumstance or new evidence, to petition the court to seek the reinstatement of parental rights when youth have been adopted, but that adoption has failed; and, would have revised various provisions related to postadoptive sibling contacts, and other conforming changes.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 20 without my signature.

This bill would expand the circumstances in which a child or a nonminor dependent may petition the juvenile dependency court for reinstatement of parental rights and revise provisions of law pertaining to post-adoption sibling contact.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 369 (Zbur) - Foster care: independent living.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have expanded, for counties that opt in, the upper age eligibility of the Independent Living Program from up to 21 years of age, to include youth up to 23 years of age; and, would have removed the reference to a \$10,000 limit on the amount of cash savings a foster youth is permitted to accrue in order to receive aid in the form of federal AFDC-FC.

**AB 426 (Jackson) - Unlicensed residential foster care facilities: temporary placement management.**

*Status: Chapter 438, Statutes of 2023*

Authorizes CDSS to assess an immediate civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000 per day for providing unlicensed residential care to children; and, requires CDSS to inform the County Welfare Director and the Board of Supervisors by written notice identifying the legal compliance issues if a county is failing to comply with current law and CDSS determines that county action is necessary.

**AB 448 (Juan Carrillo) - Juveniles: relative placement: family finding.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required a social worker and/or probation officer to immediately conduct, but no later than 30 days after the child has been removed, an investigation in order to identify and locate all relatives of the child, to document their efforts to the court, and in the case of an Indian child, the active efforts and results of those efforts to locate relatives or kin; and, would have added requirements for social workers and probation officers to document their efforts and results to locate any relatives or kin who could provide family support or possible placement of the child or NMD.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 448 without my signature.

This bill would require a social worker to conduct a family-finding investigation to identify and locate adult relatives within 30 days after a child has been taken into temporary custody and would make changes to reporting and documentation requirements for social workers and probation officers.

My Administration recognizes the value of keeping children connected to their biological and extended families. Children placed with family members have greater placement stability, fewer emotional and behavioral problems, and more connection to their social-cultural communities. Existing law already requires that, if a child is removed from their home, the social worker or probation officer must, within 30 days, investigate to identify adult relatives of the child.

Last year's Budget Act allocated \$150 million General Fund for the Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement, and Support Program, which supports culturally

responsive, family-centered, and trauma-informed family-finding and engagement services that focus on maintaining permanent connections for foster children with their family members. The new documentation requirements in this bill would result in ongoing General Fund costs of over \$6 million to support the increased administrative workload for county child welfare agencies and county probation departments. Though this policy has merit, its costs must be considered as part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 525 (Ting) - Foster youth: supervised independent living placement housing supplement**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have created a housing supplement, to be calculated by CDSS, for NMDs residing in SILPs; would have required CDSS to inform counties by July 1 of each year of the amount of the supplement and to report by county, the amount paid to NMDs placed in SILPs; and, would have required collaboration between CDSS, the County Welfare Directors Association, and CalSAWS to develop and implement the necessary system changes.

**AB 551 (Bennett) - Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services: foster children.**

*Status: This bill was amended on June 10, 2024, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.*

As referred to this Committee, would have delayed by one year, county implementation to shift the responsibility for providing or arranging for specialty mental health services for foster youth from the county of original jurisdiction, to the county in which the foster child resides.

**AB 867 (Friedman) - Foster youth.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have authorized the court to allow foster youth to remain in extended foster care

beyond the age of 21 for the limited purpose of compliance with specified verifications by the county welfare department of the foster youth prior to termination of dependency, including, being screened for eligibility for all public benefits for which the NMD may be eligible, and for those who have not secured housing, verification that referrals to transitional housing, or assistance in securing other housing has been made.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 867 without my signature.

This bill authorizes a nonminor dependent to remain in extended foster care beyond the age of 21 until the county has provided the youth with the documents, information, and services needed for their transition.

While I appreciate the author's work to support foster youth in successfully transitioning into adulthood, this bill will likely cost millions of dollars and must be considered in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 937 (McKinnor) - Dependency: family reunification services.**

*Status: Chapter 458, Statutes of 2023*

Requires a juvenile court to order, except in specified very limited circumstances, six additional months of reunification services to a parent or guardian when the court finds at a permanency review hearing that reasonable reunification services have not been provided to the parent or guardian.

**AB 954 (Bryan) - Dependency: court-ordered services.**

*Status: Chapter 552, Statutes of 2023*

Clarifies that a parent or guardian shall not be considered to be non-compliant with the court-ordered case plan when there is evidence that the parent or guardian is unable to pay for a court-ordered service, or when payment for a service would create an undue financial hardship to the parent or guardian.

**AB 1019 (Pellerin) - Child custody: counseling of parents and child.**

*Status: This bill was amended on April 13, 2023, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.*

As referred to this Committee, would have required CDSS to adopt a statewide licensing and registration program for private youth transport companies contracted to facilitate the transportation of minors to private reunification camp facilities; would have further required CDSS to annually report to the Legislature on related data; and, would have required a private youth transport company to conduct a background check for each driver and would have prohibited a company from employing drivers registered on a sex offender website.

**AB 1112 (McKinnor) - Foster youth.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required counties that opt to provide a clothing allowance to foster youth living in an approved placement, to also provide a clothing allowance to foster youth not residing in an approved placement; and, would have provided that pregnant foster youth living in an unapproved placement are eligible for the expectant parent payment.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1112 without my signature.

This bill would require counties to expand eligibility for the foster youth clothing allowance benefit and the expectant parent benefit to include foster youth who do not reside in an approved placement.

I share the author's commitment to ensure that foster youth receive the benefits and support services they need. However, the foster care system works to ensure that youth are placed in a safe, stable, and homelike environment. Without an approved placement, foster youth are not eligible to receive foster care payments. As written, this bill could perpetuate foster youth remaining in a placement that is not approved or the safest option for them. Further, because foster care was realigned to counties, the state General Fund would be responsible for offsetting any new county costs for implementation, and such costs should be considered in the context of the broader budget.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 1134 (McKinnor) - Family reunification services.**

*Status: Assembly Committee on Judiciary hearing postponed by the Committee.*

Would have allowed reunification services to be provided to those who have been convicted of a violent felony as long as the victim was not a child under the custody of the parent or guardian.

**AB 1154 (Wilson) - Juveniles: mentoring programs.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have added requirements for foster youth mentoring programs, including a participation agreement for non-probation supervised youth, criteria for nonprofits mentoring organizations to meet to be eligible to serve the foster youth, and access to reports by the mentoring organizations.

**AB 1344 (Santiago) - Surviving child benefits.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have established the California Survivor Benefit Program to provide cash assistance for a minor with a deceased parent, when the minor is not eligible for survivor benefits under the federal Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program; and, would have required, when local child support and human service agencies became aware that a child's parent has died, these agencies to inform a parent or guardian of benefits under the OASDI program, and benefits provided to survivors of veterans by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

**AB 1506 (Quirk-Silva) - Foster youth.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have added to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights, the right for a foster youth, when a move or change in placement requires a change in schools, to be provided with the opportunity to return to their school in a trauma-informed manner to collect their

belongings, with that return to be done during school hours to the extent feasible to allow an opportunity to connect with teachers and classmates.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1506 without my signature.

This bill adds to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights the requirement that foster youth experiencing a change in their school be provided with the opportunity to return to their prior school during school hours, in a trauma-informed manner, to connect with teachers and classmates.

While I appreciate the author's intent to support foster youth who change schools midyear, AB 1506 creates a new right without setting forth the policies needed to effectuate it. Specifically, this bill does not identify who will be responsible for implementing this new right or set a manner to hold them accountable for failing to meet the requirement.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 1512 (Bryan) - Foster care payments.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have expanded the information counties are required to provide to foster youth receiving SSI benefits who are approaching their 18th birthday, to include information regarding all federal Social Security Administration benefits; would have required counties to ensure that the child's benefits are not used to pay for, or to reimburse the placing agency for, any costs of the child's care and supervision; and, would have required the county, prior to applying to be appointed representative payee, to send a written notice of the intent to be appointed to the child's counsel and parents or legal guardians.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1512 without my signature.

This bill would require counties to take additional actions relating to foster youth eligibility for all federal Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits and would prohibit using a child's benefits to pay for any costs of the child's care.



I share the author's commitment to ensure that foster youth receive the benefits and support services they need. However, this bill creates implementation challenges that should be considered as part of the annual budget process. Both Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and foster care benefits are intended to provide for the daily care and supervision of youth, including costs for housing and food. If counties are not permitted to use SSI to cover the cost of providing care to foster youth, the General Fund will need to offset those costs. This was not contemplated as part of the budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 1522 (Cervantes) - Foster Care: LGBTQ youth.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required CDSS to convene a workgroup to create a report with recommendations to prevent housing instability among LGBTQ youth in foster care; would have required the workgroup to address whether strengthening case management services for those transitioning from foster care would eliminate housing instability among LGBTQ youth; would have required the report to be submitted no later than January 1, 2025; and, would have sunset this work group on January 1, 2027.

**AB 1675 (Alanis) - Foster care: enrichment activities.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required a caseworker to discuss, and document in the case plan, enrichment and extracurricular activities with each foster youth; would have added items related to enrichment and extracurricular activities to the list of what the court is required to determine at a foster youth status review; would have also required DHCS and CDSS to convene a stakeholder workgroup and would have required DHCS, CDSS, and CDE to develop a plan to support participation in enrichment activities; and, would have required CDSS to report information related to how allocated funds were used.

**AB 1799 (Jackson) - Child abuse: reporting.**

*Status: Held in the Assembly Public Safety Committee.*

Would have authorized a mandated reporter to report general neglect of a child to one or more community-based agencies or service providers in addition to, or in lieu of, a specified law enforcement agency or county welfare department.

**AB 1847 (Essayli) - Child welfare services: report**

*Status: Assembly Committee on Human Services hearing postponed by the Committee.*

Would have required CDSS to submit to the Legislature on the operation and progress of the child welfare services program annually, instead of every three years.

**AB 1887 (Cervantes) - Student financial aid: application deadlines: extension.**

*Status: This bill was amended on March 14, 2024, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.*

As referred to this Committee, would have required CDSS to convene a workgroup to create a report with recommendations to prevent housing instability among LGBTQ youth in foster care.

**AB 1907 (Pellerin) - California Child and Family Service Review System: Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment.**

*Status: Chapter 944, Statutes of 2024*

Requires, subject to an appropriation, the California Child and Family Services Review System to include data from the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths assessment tool.

**AB 1913 (Addis) - Pupil safety: child abuse prevention: training.**

*Status: Chapter 814, Statutes of 2024*

Requires school districts, county offices of education, state special schools, and charter schools to include child abuse prevention in the annual mandated reporter training requirement for teachers beginning July 1, 2025.

**AB 1952 (Dixon) - Foster care: infant supplement.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required the rate to cover the cost of care and supervision of a child of a foster youth to be supplemented by an additional monthly amount of \$517.24, if funding was appropriated in the annual Budget Act, to be adjusted by an amount equal to the California Necessities Index.

**AB 2108 (Ramos) - Foster care: missing children and nonminor dependents.**

*Status: Chapter 660, Statutes of 2024*

Revises the protocols county child welfare agencies and probation departments are required to develop and implement to expeditiously locate a child or NMD missing from foster care.

**AB 2137 (Quirk-Silva) - Homeless and foster youth.**

*Status: Chapter 382, Statutes of 2024*

Authorizes a foster youth services coordinating program, if a foster youth educational services coordinator is unable, through specified coordinating activities and using any

other state, federal, local, or private funds to secure tutoring, mentoring, and counseling services provided by a foster youth pupil's school district, and if those services are established as needed and identified by the foster youth educational services coordinator, to provide those services to the pupil.

**AB 2237 (Aguiar-Curry) - Children and youth: transfer of specialty mental health services.**

*Status:* This bill was amended on April 11, 2024, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

As referred to this Committee, would have required, when a youth under 18 years of age changes residence from one county to another, the receiving county to provide specialty mental health services while the receiving county conducts its investigation and casework transfer process; would have required DHCS and CDSS to collaborate and create a system of standardized communication between counties, and, would have required CDSS to establish care teams to help counties coordinate and expedite the transfer between counties.

**AB 2255 (Joe Patterson) - Adoption Assistance Program: eligibility.**

*Status:* Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.

Would have expanded eligibility for Adoption Assistance Program benefits and would have required counties to include an application for extension of benefits when notifying adoptive parents of the expiration of benefits due to age.

**AB 2282 (McKinnor) - Family reunification services.**

*Status:* Senate Committee on Judiciary hearing cancelled at the request of the Author.

Would have allowed parents or guardians who have been convicted of a violent felony to be provided with family reunification services with their child as long as the violent felony was not against a child.

**AB 2459 (Wilson) - Juveniles: mentoring programs.**

*Status:* Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.

Would have required county social workers and probation officers, in their reports to the court prepared in advance of review hearings regarding foster youth, to document whether a child or NMD is interested in engaging in voluntary mentoring services.

**AB 2477 (Zbur) - Foster care: independent living.**

*Status:* Chapter 237, Statutes of 2024

Clarifies that an NMD who re-enters foster care and is ineligible for federal financial participation, is eligible to receive aid in the form of state AFDC-FC if all other specified criteria are met.

**AB 2496 (Pellerin) - Foster family agencies and noncustodial adoption agencies.**

*Status:* Chapter 403, Statutes of 2024

Authorizes CDSS to temporarily waive provisions in order to facilitate the expedient transfer of an approval of a resource family from a foster family agency (FFA) to a county; provides that an FFA may be held liable for injury or damage caused by the negligence of

the FFA, but not for the injury or damage caused by the public entity; and, requires the FFA and the public entity to each bear the cost of insuring against their respective acts and omissions, and to each bear the costs of defending itself against claims arising from those risks.

**AB 2508 (McCarty) - Student financial aid: California Kids Investment and Development Savings (KIDS) Program: foster youth.**

*Status: Chapter 622, Statutes of 2024*

Requires the ScholarShare Investment Board to open a California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program account for a student in the foster care system in grades one to 12 if an account has not already been established; requires the account of a student in the foster care system to receive a one-time enhanced deposit of \$500; and, authorizes the additional enhanced deposit of \$500 for those foster youth who did not previously receive an enhanced deposit that was previously provided to low-income students.

**AB 2544 (Low) - Background checks.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have permitted a licensee of a community care facility to approve an individual to care for children prior to the completion of the check of other states' child abuse and neglect registry, provided that specified conditions are met.

**AB 2664 (Bryan) - Foster youth.**

*Status: Chapter 412, Statutes of 2024*

Clarifies the dates a child will be deemed to have entered foster care for the purpose of establishing timelines for the provision of reunification services.

**AB 2674 (Schiavo) - The California Affordable and Foster Youth Housing Finance Innovation Act.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required the California Housing Finance Agency to establish the California Affordable and Foster Youth Housing Finance Innovation Program to provide loan guarantees, secured loans, or lines of credit for housing developments that provide a percentage of housing for former or current foster youth and lower income households.

**AB 2752 (Calderon) - Juvenile court: visitation.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have modified the standards under which a juvenile court must order visitation, including unsupervised visitation, between a dependent child and their parent or guardian during the dependency process.

**AB 2802 (Maienschein) - Transitional housing placement providers.**

*Status: Chapter 245, Statutes of 2024*

Requires counties, when operating the Transitional Housing Placement (THP) program, to allow providers and participants to make best matches to allow for gender flexibility; and, updates the minimum requirements for regulations governing THP providers to allow participants to share units and bedrooms with siblings and co-parents regardless of gender identity.

**AB 2828 (Bains) - Child health and safety: “Have a Heart, Be a Star, Help Our Kids” license plate program.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have increased the fees associated with Have a Heart, Be a Star, Help Our Kids license plates; and, specified the proportion of moneys derived from the license plate program to be available for child abuse prevention programs and childcare licensing, recruitment, and training, among others.

**AB 2830 (Robert Rivas) - Foster care: relative placement: approval process.**

*Status: Chapter 417, Statutes of 2024*

Requires CDSS to adopt a simplified approval process for relatives to become foster care providers in alignment with federal regulations; and, track and report to the Legislature specified data on implementation of the new process.

**AB 2884 (Hart) - Parenting classes working group.**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Assembly Committee on Human Services.*

Would have required the Judicial Council and CDSS to cooperatively form a working group to make recommendations, with the advice and the assistance of the County Welfare Directors Association of California, to evaluate currently active programs listed within the California Evidenced-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare, the cause and outcome for court-ordered parenting classes, and the efficacy of classes; would have set standards for authorized parenting classes to fulfill court-required parenting classes; and, would have developed a list of authorized parenting classes that a court can use to order parenting classes.

**AB 2906 (Bryan) - Foster care payments.**

*Status: Chapter 623, Statutes of 2024*

Requires, when a county serves as the representative payee for a foster youth receiving federal Social Security Administration survivors' benefits, to ensure that their benefits are not used to pay for, or to reimburse the county for, any costs of the child's care and supervision; and, requires counties to notify the child, their attorney, and parents or guardians, if an application for survivors' benefits has been made on the child's behalf.

**AB 2929 (Juan Carrillo) - Dependents: family finding.**

*Status: Chapter 845, Statutes of 2024*

Requires courts and social workers to consider in status review hearings and supplemental reports, whether appropriate efforts have been made to locate family members who could support or accept placement of a foster child or NMD.

**AB 2935 (Maienschein) - Foster children: consumer credit reports.**

*Status: Chapter 846, Statutes of 2024*

Revises requirements related to the placement and the removal of a security freeze on the credit report of a minor under 16 years of age who has been placed in a foster care setting.

**AB 2941 (Grayson) - Parents and youth: helpline and online support.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required CDSS, subject to an appropriation, to contract with a nonprofit organization to operate and maintain the California Parent and Youth Helpline.

**AB 2948 (Ramos) - Adoption Assistance Program: tribal court order.**

*Status: Chapter 175, Statutes of 2024*

Allows former dependent Indian children adopted through tribal courts to access the Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) by adding the issuance of a final order of adoption by the tribal court of the child's tribe, in the case of an Indian child who was a dependent of the juvenile court immediately prior to the transfer of the Indian child's case, to the conditions required to meet AAP eligibility.

**AB 3049 (Bryan) - Dependency: court hearings.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have clarified the duties of counsel for minors in dependency proceedings; and, would have provided for a process for the court to advise and inquire about minors participating in hearings remotely or not present, of their right to be present.

**AB 3103 (Quirk-Silva) - Dependent children: health screenings.**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Assembly Committee on Human Services.*

Would have permitted, in the absence of a standing court order, a social worker to authorize a noninvasive initial medical, dental, and mental health screening of a child in temporary custody.

**AB 3145 (Bryan) - Family preservation services: standards.**

*Status: Chapter 976, Statutes of 2024*

Establishes the Foster Care Justice through Meaningful Help for Parents Act to require providers of family preservation services to demonstrate the outcomes of their services; and, requires CDSS to post an annual report from a county containing specified data regarding whether the providers' services were deemed successful, within 30 business days of receipt.

**AB 3182 (Lackey) - Child abuse: social worker liability.**

*Status: This bill was amended on April 8, 2024, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.*

As referred to this Committee, would have expanded the prohibition on certain acts to a record, map, book, or paper or proceeding of a court, filed or deposited in a public office, to include a social worker, their designee, and their supervisor; and, would have clarified that a social worker, who has been entrusted with the care of a child, even for a short period of time, is considered to have the care and custody of that child for the purposes of criminal liability.

**AB 3217 (Bryan) - Juveniles: Justice Through Placing Foster Children with Families Act.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required each county to review annual data comparing the statewide average

rate of foster youth placed with relatives, for comparison with the county's placement rate; would have required the county welfare director, if a county's rate is less than the statewide average, to communicate with counties with the highest placement rates to compare best practices and, if a county has a rate of placing children with relatives below the statewide average, and, would have required the board of supervisors to include the topic for discussion on the agenda of a board meeting.

**AB 3223 (Wilson) - Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program.**

*Status: Chapter 850, Statutes of 2024*

Expands eligibility for the Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program to include a child who is the subject of a petition filed in juvenile court and has been identified as being at imminent risk of removal and placement into foster care.

**SB 9 (Cortese) - Raising the Age for Extended Foster Care Pilot Program Act of 2023.**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.*

Would have authorized, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature or other source of funding, a three-year pilot program to extend foster care services to NMDs who are up to 22 years of age, in at least three counties that choose to participate in the program.

**SB 407 (Wiener) - Foster care: resource families.**

*Status: Chapter 226, Statutes of 2023*

Requires resource families to demonstrate an ability and willingness to meet the needs of a child, regardless of the child's sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; and, adds specified responsibilities to CDSS and counties related to ensuring that foster youth will be placed with LGBTQ-affirming resource families.

**SB 408 (Ashby) - Foster youth with complex needs: regional health teams.**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.*

Would have required DHCS, in consultation with CDSS, to establish up to 10 regional health teams throughout the state to serve foster youth and youth who may be at risk of entering foster care, at a facility or through mobile services in home or other community-based settings.

**SB 463 (Wahab) - Dependent children.**

*Status: Chapter 714, Statutes of 2023*

Eliminates the juvenile court standard, for purposes of foster youth status review hearings, that considers failure of the parent to participate regularly and make substantive progress in court-ordered treatment programs to be prima facie evidence that return of a foster child would be detrimental.

**SB 578 (Ashby) - Juvenile court: dependents: removal.**

*Status: Chapter 618, Statutes of 2023*

Requires a social worker to include specified information to the court at the initial petition hearing regarding the short-term and long-term harms to the child that may result from removal from their parent's, guardian's, or Indian custodian's (parent's) physical custody.

**SB 589 (Alvarado-Gil) - Foster youth: disaster aid assistance.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have established the Child Welfare Disaster Response Program, which would have been administered by CDSS to support the needs of foster youth and their caregivers during a disaster.

**SB 824 (Ashby) - Foster care.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have expanded the authority of CDSS to grant criminal record exemptions during the resource family approval (RFA) process to include nonrelative relative extended family members (NREFMs); would have allowed youth who were subject to an order for placement with a relative, regardless of the status of any criminal record exemption or RFA, to be eligible to receive aid from the state-funded Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program; and, would have added the home of a NREFM to the placements that would allow a youth to be eligible for AFDC-FC, and would have expanded eligibility for the Adoption Assistance Program.

**SB 1043 (Grove) - Short-term residential therapeutic programs: dashboard: seclusion or behavioral restraints.**

*Status: Chapter 628, Statutes of 2024*

Requires facilities operating STRTPs to provide specified information to a child subject to seclusion or behavioral restraints, their parent, foster parent, guardian, or tribal representative, and CDSS; requires CDSS to review all reported incidents involving the use of seclusion or behavioral restraints, and investigate any incidents that indicate a potential health and safety concern or licensing violation; and, requires CDSS to display data that is specific to STRTPs on its website regarding the use of seclusion or behavioral restraints.

**SB 1322 (Wahab) - Foster youth: Chafee Educational and Training Vouchers Program.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have expanded the eligibility for the Chafee Educational and Training Vouchers Program grant to include foster youth who were in care between 15 and 18 years of age, instead of between 16 and 18 years of age.

**Childcare and Early Childhood Education**

**AB 51 (Bonta) - Early childcare and education.**

*Status: Chapter 618, Statutes of 2024*

Requires CDE, subject to an appropriation, to provide prospective CSPP contractors who have not received a CSPP contract, or have not received a contract within the last five years, an equitable opportunity to establish a trained workforce and administrative systems; develop early learning resources; develop guidance related to serving private-pay as well as subsidized children in a universal pre-K system; develop a three-year plan for outreach, capacity building, training and technical assistance; create a separate webpage by January 1, 2026, on its website on starting, funding, and operating a CSPP; and, authorizes CDE to



modify the CSPP request for application requirements to simplify and streamline the application process for prospective contractors.

**AB 244 (Wilson) - Specialized Inclusivity Training for Childcare Staff Grant Program.**

*Status:* Assembly Committee on Human Services hearing cancelled at the request of the Author.

Would have established the Specialized Inclusivity Training for Child Care Staff Grant Program, to be administered by CDSS.

**AB 262 (Holden) - Children's camps: safety and regulation.**

*Status:* Chapter 341, Statutes of 2024

Requires, subject to an appropriation, CDSS to prepare a report, informed by consultation with a wide variety of stakeholders, regarding approaches for children's camp health and safety regulation and oversight, to be submitted to the Legislature.

**AB 393 (Luz Rivas) - Childcare: dual language learners.**

*Status:* Chapter 435, Statutes of 2023

Requires the CDSS Director to develop procedures for general or migrant childcare and development contractors to identify and report data on dual language learners (DLLs) in General Childcare and Development Programs or Migrant Childcare and Development Programs; and, requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the CDSS Director to coordinate their efforts in developing procedures and reporting data regarding DLLs.

**AB 555 (Juan Carrillo) - California state preschool programs.**

*Status:* Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.

Would have increased priority for the enrollment of three-year olds in CSPP by giving equal priority to three- and four-year olds; and, extends specified adjustment factors to part-day state preschool programs.

**AB 596 (Reyes) - Early learning and care: rate reform.**

*Status:* Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.

Would have required CDSS, in consultation with CDE, to develop and implement an alternative methodology for calculating subsidy payment rates for childcare and CSPP services; would have required CDSS, in consultation with CDE, to develop an equitable sliding scale for the payment of family fees; and, would have prohibited family fees from being collected until the new sliding scale is implemented.

**AB 679 (Wicks) - Family childcare homes: meals: reimbursement rates.**

*Staff:* Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.

Would have allowed licensed family childcare homes to receive 100% reimbursement instead of 75% for eligible meals provided to children in their care.

**AB 772 (Jackson) - Child day care facilities.**

*Status:* Chapter 933, Statutes of 2024

Exempts drop-in childcare centers from requiring a physician's approval of a written

health assessment completed by the child's authorized representative upon admission of a child.

**AB 1038 (Reyes) - California state preschool programs: expulsion.**

*Status: This bill was amended substantially on August 19, 2024, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.*

As referred to this Committee, would have established requirements for family child care home education network programs, contractors, and affiliated providers to ensure assessments are appropriate to family child care home settings, curricula are age- and developmentally-appropriate, and quality standards are met.

**AB 1352 (Bonta) - Childcare: statewide pilot policies: individualized county childcare subsidy plans.**

*Status: This bill was amended substantially on June 20, 2023, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.*

As heard by this Committee, would have created a statewide childcare pilot subcommittee of the Universal PreKindergarten Mixed Delivery Quality and Access Workgroup to propose, evaluate, and collect evidence to support the creation of statewide pilot policies for childcare and child development programs by CDE and CDSS; would have permitted a local planning council to apply to CDE and CDSS to participate in an approved statewide pilot policy, would have delayed the expiration of existing pilot projects from July 1, 2023, until July 1, 2025; and, was an urgency measure.

**AB 1808 (Stephanie Nguyen) - Childcare and development services: eligibility.**

*Status: Chapter 356, Statutes of 2024*

Aligns the CalWORKs eligibility period for families with other subsidized childcare programs at 24 months.

**AB 1925 (Rendon) - Childcare and development programs: eligibility.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have extended eligibility for subsidized childcare and development programs to a family whose child is eligible for services under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and to a family who needs the childcare services because the child is identified as eligible for services under IDEA.

**AB 2206 (Addis) - Child daycare facilities: fire clearance requirements.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required the State Fire Marshal or a local fire enforcing agency to conduct a pre-inspection of a prospective applicant for childcare licensure and to verify whether the facility is authorized to enroll ambulatory children only, or both ambulatory and nonambulatory children, as defined; and, would have exempted a child daycare facility from obtaining a revised fire clearance for the subsequent addition of nonambulatory children once approved.

**AB 2317 (Stephanie Nguyen) - Child day care facilities: anaphylactic policy.**

*Status: Chapter 563, Statutes of 2024*

Requires CDSS, in consultation with CDE and the Emergency Medical Services Authority, to

establish an anaphylactic policy that sets forth guidelines and procedures recommended for child daycare facility trained staff to prevent a child from suffering from anaphylaxis and to be used during a medical emergency resulting from anaphylaxis; and, requires the director or teacher at each daycare center, and each family daycare home licensee who provides care, to obtain training in a pediatric first aid or pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation course that includes instruction in the prevention and treatment of anaphylaxis, including the emergency use of epinephrine auto-injectors.

**AB 2343 (Schiavo) - CalWORKs: childcare programs.**

*Status: Chapter 958, Statutes of 2024*

Authorizes an APP or agency administering the CalWORKs Stage One or Stage Two programs, serving children 0 to 12 years of age inclusive, from utilizing funds for administrative and support services to provide families at risk of homelessness or escaping domestic abuse a referral pathway to secure stable childcare placement; and, permits these services to be provided to the extent possible, in coordination with, and not supplanting, services provided by county human services agencies, and may be provided in partnership with homeless service agencies, domestic violence agencies, or other supportive housing.

**AB 2381 (Bonta) - California state preschool programs: reimbursement rates.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have modified the reimbursement methodology for CSPP contractors by eliminating attendance as a factor, thereby basing reimbursement on enrollment.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2381 without my signature.

This bill modifies the reimbursement methodology for California State Preschool Program contractors by eliminating attendance as a factor, thereby basing reimbursement on enrollment.

I thank the author for their commitment to strengthening the early learning and care system. Although recent federal regulations establish related requirements for child care and development programs administered by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), this bill does not make similar changes to the reimbursement methodology applicable to those programs. I am directing the Department of Finance and CDSS to include necessary changes for meeting these federal requirements and ensuring alignment across programs, including the California State Preschool Program, as a part of the 2025-26 budget process.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 2476 (Bonta) - Childcare services: alternative payment programs.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have revised the requirements related to APP reimbursements to childcare providers, as specified.

**AB 2671 (Weber) - Family daycare homes: filtered water.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required licensed family daycare homes to only serve water to children, or use water in food preparation, that has been filtered using a point-of-use water filtration device certified to meet National Sanitation Foundation/American National Standards Institute standards for lead reduction.

**AB 2732 (Papan) - Grant Information Act of 2018: internet web portal: climate-related grants: childcare sector.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required the California State Library to create a category tab for “childcare” on the California Grants Portal.

**AB 2774 (Grayson) - Childcare for Working Families Act.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have, until July 1, 2026, established the Childcare for Working Families Act and would have required the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to establish a Childcare for Working Families Task Force whose purpose was to recommend future comprehensive strategies aimed at addressing challenges faced by working families in accessing flexible, affordable, and quality childcare options.

**AB 2866 (Pellerin) - Pool safety: State Department of Social Services regulated facilities.**

*Status: Chapter 745, Statutes of 2024*

Requires a licensed childcare facility, either a family daycare home or a child daycare center, with a swimming pool on the premises to have at least two safety features specified in the Swimming Pool Safety Act.

**AB 2949 (Rendon) - Family childcare home education networks.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have codified, clarified, and expanded the duties and responsibilities of family childcare home education network contractors and providers.

**AB 2982 (Reyes) - Prenatal-to-3 working group.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required the California Health and Human Services Agency to convene a workgroup by March 1, 2025, to craft evidence-based and community-informed recommendations for a statewide comprehensive, equity-focused prenatal-to-three system agenda.

**SB 380 (Limón) - Early learning and care: rate reform.**

*Status: Assembly Committee on Appropriations hearing postponed by the Committee.*

As heard by this Committee, would have required CDSS, in consultation with CDE, to develop and implement an alternative methodology for calculating subsidy payment rates for childcare and CSPP services; would have required CDSS, in consultation with CDE, to develop an equitable sliding scale for the payment of family fees; and, would have prohibited family fees from being collected until the new sliding scale is implemented.

**SB 499 (Menjivar) - School facilities: School Extreme Heat Action Plan Act of 2023.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required all schoolsites and child care facilities to develop and implement an extreme heat action plan to plant shade trees, install a school garden, and plant a coniferous tree barrier; would have required CDE, in consultation with CDSS, to develop a template for an extreme heat action plan; would have made available a model program guidebook; and, would have required CDSS to identify a liaison for child care facilities.

**SB 722 (Ochoa Bogh) - Daycare facilities: incidental medical services plans.**

*Status: Chapter 631, Statutes of 2023*

Requires CDSS, by January 1, 2025, to create a template for plans of operations, and for incidental medical services plans (ICMP); requires CDSS to remove any requirements in regulations, notices, or practices for ICMPs or plans of operation to be approved before a child with exceptional needs may attend a child daycare or child development program; and, authorizes a child daycare facility that submits an ICMP using the template to enroll the child prior to the departmental approval of the ICMP.

**SB 1112 (Menjivar) - Medi-Cal: families with subsidized childcare.**

*Status: Chapter 1016, Statutes of 2024*

Requires that the administrative costs reimbursement rate for APPs include, but not be limited to, costs associated with disseminating information on developmental screenings.

**SB 1401 (Blakespear) - Family childcare home: United States Armed Forces.**

*Status: Assembly Committee on Human Services hearing cancelled by the Author.*

Would have exempted a family childcare home administered by a person certified as a family childcare provider by a branch of the United States Armed Forces, and that exclusively provides care for children of eligible federal personnel and surviving spouses, from child daycare licensure and regulation by CDSS.

**Congregate Care**

**AB 770 (Kalra) - Residential care facilities for the elderly.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have stricken the six person bed limit for RCFEs located in a family dwelling; and, would have required an RCFE licensed by CDSS that provides onsite services located in a family dwelling with greater than six beds to reserve, at a minimum, 30% of all beds, after the first six, for low-income individuals or recipients of SSI/SSP benefits.

**AB 1911 (Reyes) - Residential care facilities: complaints.**

*Status:* Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.

Would have revised current procedures for complaints against RCFEs.

**AB 1993 (Kalra) - Residential care facilities for the elderly: maximum number of residents.**

*Status:* Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.

Would have increased, from six to eight, the maximum number of residents that may be served in a RCFE that is considered a residential use of property.

**AB 2549 (Gallagher) - Patient visitation.**

*Status:* This bill was amended substantially on April 1, 2024, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

As referred to this Committee, would have required adult and senior care residential facilities licensed by CDSS to adopt visitation policies in compliance with the department's guidance no later than January 1, 2026.

**AB 2650 (Zbur) - Licensed adult residential facilities and residential care facilities for the elderly: data collection.**

*Status:* Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.

Would have required CDSS to collect specified information from licensed RCFEs and licensed adult residential care facilities.

**SB 875 (Glazer) - Health and care facilities: residential care facilities for the elderly: referral agencies.**

*Status:* Assembly Committee on Human Services hearing cancelled by the Author.

Would have extended the existing licensing requirements for referral agencies licensed by CDPH to apply to RCFE referral agencies, to be licensed by CDSS.

**SB 1352 (Wahab) - Continuing care retirement communities.**

*Status:* Chapter 338, Statutes of 2024

Expressly requires a continuing care retirement community (CCRC) provider, at the time or before a resident signs a continuing care contract, and when a resident is proposed to be moved to a different level of care, to provide the resident with a copy of their rights, and if the resident is moving into the CCRC's skilled nursing facility, a copy of the rights to residents of skilled nursing facilities.

**SB 1406 (Allen) - Residential care facilities for the elderly: resident services.**

*Status:* Chapter 340, Statutes of 2024

Adds to the list of rights for residents of an RCFE the right to request, refuse, or discontinue a service; requires an RCFE to provide written notice to residents regarding an increase in the rate of fees 90 days in advance; and, requires the notice to include the reason or reasons for the increase in rates.

## Developmental Services

### **AB 248 (Mathis) - Individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities: The Dignity for All Act.**

*Status: Chapter 797, Statutes of 2023*

Strikes the terms "handicapped", "mentally retarded persons", "mentally retarded children", and "retardation" and instead uses the terms "individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities", or "impaired person" throughout the Health and Safety Code and Welfare and Institutions Code.

### **AB 649 (Wilson) - Developmental services.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have removed the requirement for consumers at regional centers to provide appeals from health care service plan denials; and, would have removed the requirement for regional centers to determine the merit of the denial from a health care service plan in order for the consumer to receive services from the regional center.

### **AB 1147 (Addis) - Disability Equity and Accountability Act of 2023.**

*Status: Chapter 902, Statutes of 2024*

Deletes, revises, and adds requirements for DDS and the regional centers that coordinate services for the eligible population.

### **AB 1568 (Wood) - Developmental services: independent living skills services: rates.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required DDS to revise and implement a rate setting process for independent living services and specified services that must be offered.

### **AB 1680 (Sanchez) - Developmental services:**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Assembly Committee on Human Services.*

Would have required CDSS and DDS to provide specified data three times a year to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee instead of annually.

### **AB 1876 (Jackson) - Developmental services: individual program plans and individual family service plans: remote meetings.**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Senate Committee on Appropriations.*

Would have eliminated the June 30, 2024, sunset date for utilizing remote technology for individual program plan (IPP) and individualized family service plan (IFSP) meetings, thereby indefinitely requiring an IPP and IFSP meeting to be held by remote electronic communications if requested by the consumer or, if appropriate, by the consumer's parents, legal guardian, conservator, or authorized representative.

### **AB 2360 (Rendon) - Developmental services: family services: counseling.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required DDS to establish a Family Wellness Pilot Program.

**AB 2383 (Wendy Carrillo) - State Department of Developmental Services: services for medically fragile children: training program.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required DDS, in consultation with DHCS and CDPH, to develop a required training program for regional center care management professionals and hospital care management professionals regarding specified Medi-Cal home- and community-based services programs.

**AB 2423 (Mathis) - Developmental services: rates.**

*Status: Chapter 904, Statutes of 2024*

Requires DDS, commencing July 1, 2025, and every other year thereafter, to review and update the rate models included in the rate study for developmental services providers; and, requires DDS to post the updated rate models on its internet website no later than January 1 of the following year.

**AB 2510 (Arambula) - Dental care for people with developmental disabilities.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required DDS to contract with a dental school or college in the state, as specified, to establish a statewide dental program in the state's regional centers.

**AB 3291 (Committee on Human Services) - Developmental services.**

*Status: Chapter 441, Statutes of 2024*

Updates regional center requirements regarding the planning process for IPPs.

**SB 805 (Portantino) - Health care coverage: pervasive developmental disorders or autism.**

*Status: Chapter 635, Statutes of 2023*

Expands the criteria for a qualified autism service professional; requires DDS, on or before July 1, 2026, to adopt emergency regulations; and, requires DDS to establish rates and the educational or experiential qualifications and professional supervision requirements necessary for these positions to provide behavioral intervention services.

**SB 1197 (Alvarado-Gil) - In-home respite services.**

*Status: Chapter 909, Statutes of 2024*

Permits children who receive AFDC-FC benefits and regional center services to receive in-home respite services if they are residing in specified locations.

**SB 1281 (Menjivar) - Advancing Equity and Access in the Self-Determination Program Act.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required DDS, no later than January 1, 2026, to establish statewide standardized processes and procedures for the Self-Determination Program.



**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1281 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to establish standardized processes and procedures for the Self-Determination Program (SDP) by January 1, 2026, and require DDS to ensure that the state's regional centers are applying these new standards consistently.

The statewide Self-Determination Program provides individuals with developmental disabilities and their families with increased freedom, control, and responsibility in the decisions, resources, and services included in their Individual Program Plan. I share the author's intent to increase equitable access to the SDP and improve standards and consistency throughout the system. However, the California Health and Human Services Agency is currently leading the development of the Master Plan for Developmental Services, with active stakeholder participation and contribution to the vision. Part of this process includes making recommendations to improve the implementation of the SDP, and as such, this platform should be utilized to advance these conversations. I look forward to considering any future proposals that will make improvements to the SDP for the benefit of consumers and families.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**SB 1463 (Niello) - Developmental services: Self-Determination Program: Deputy Director of Self-Determination.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required the Governor to appoint a Deputy Director of Self-Determination, subject to Senate confirmation, responsible for overseeing the successful implementation and operation of the Self-Determination Program administered by DDS and regional centers.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1463 without my signature.

This bill would require the Governor to appoint a Director of Self-Determination within the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to oversee the implementation and operation of the Self-Determination Program.

The statewide Self-Determination Program provides individuals with developmental disabilities and their families with increased freedom, control, and responsibility in the decisions, resources, and services included in their Individual Program Plan. DDS currently has a Career Executive Assignment position leading the Self-Determination Program, which reports directly to the DDS Director. Therefore, a change in statute is not necessary to establish a new position appointed by the Governor to do this work.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

## **General Public Social Services**

### **AB 94 (Davies) - Administration of public social services: blocked telephone calls.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have prohibited blocked caller identification from all calls made by, or on behalf of, a county for applicants or recipients of public social service benefits.

### **AB 366 (Petrie-Norris) - County human services agencies: workforce development.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required the California Department of Human Resources to permit local agencies that are not administering their own merit systems, to use alternate processes until January 1, 2029, to screen applications and establish eligibility lists for recruitment.

### **Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 366 without my signature.

This bill creates two exemptions to the merit-based hiring system for local government entities overseen by the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) by allowing local agencies to screen and establish eligibility lists directly with oversight by CalHR, or implementing alternative examination requirements without advance approval by CalHR.

I appreciate the author's intent to address county recruitment and staffing challenges. However, as a condition of the receipt of federal funds, county agencies are required to utilize a merit-based personnel system to operate human services

programs. This bill undermines the merit-based system, which could result in lost federal funding. Further, under current law, any county that would like independent authority in its employee selection process may petition CalHR, and CalHR offers the identified alternate selection process in any county where conditions warrant.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 510 (Jackson) - Public social services: purposes.**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.*

Would have updated the purposes of public social services for which state grants-in-aid are made to counties.

**AB 870 (Arambula) - Public social services: benefits for students.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required CDSS to convene a workgroup to share best practices, updates, challenges, or other topics related to programs and services offered by CDSS that may be available to students attending a public higher education institution.

**AB 991 (Alvarez) - Public social services: reporting and verification.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required state and county agencies to accept information from public social service applicants and recipients in any form.

**AB 1015 (Calderon) - Diaper and wipe distribution program.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required CDSS to establish and administer the Diaper and Wipe Distribution Program for low-income families with infants or toddlers.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1015 without my signature.

This bill would require the State Department of Social Services to administer an expanded Diaper and Wipe Distribution Program in all 58 counties.

The current diaper bank effort was established via the Budget Act of 2021, serving twenty counties throughout California and distributing over one-hundred million diapers to over one million low-income households since its inception. The same budget also exempted diapers from sales tax. While I appreciate the author's desire to provide additional assistance, an expanded effort should similarly be considered

and funded as part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 1084 (Stephanie Nguyen) - Bilingual-Oriented Social Equity Services Grant Program.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have established the Bilingual-Oriented Social Equity Services (BOSES) Grant Program within CDSS to distribute funding to nonprofit community-based organizations to provide a pay differential to direct service professionals who communicate in a language or medium other than English as part of their job duties.

**AB 1274 (Connolly) - California Youth Empowerment Commission: civil service workforce.**

*Status: Senate Committee on Human Services hearing cancelled by the Author.*

Would have added “fostering a new generation of young Californians to enter the civil service workforce” to the list of what the California Youth Empowerment Commission in the Office of Planning and Research shall advise and make recommendations on to the Legislature, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Governor.

**AB 1321 (Bonta) - California Coordinated Neighborhood and Community Services Grant Program.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have created a California Coordinated Neighborhood and Community Services Grant Program; and, would have required grantees to implement a comprehensive, integrated continuum of cradle-to-career solutions at the neighborhood level, or support the civic infrastructure and backbone of cradle-to-career networks that would support their network partners to accomplish systems change.

**AB 1457 (Ortega) - Public social services: merit or civil service employee.**

*Status: Chapter 279, Statutes of 2023*

Adds the IHSS program, California Food Assistance Program, CAPI, and Adult Protective Services Program to the social services programs requiring decisions governing eligibility to be made exclusively by a merit or civil service employee.

**AB 1514 (Reyes) - Public social services: student eligibility.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required CDSS to convene a workgroup of various stakeholders to develop recommendations to allow data from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be released to county welfare departments in order to authorize students to apply to receive public social services based on data collected from their FAFSA application.

**AB 1786 (Rodriguez) - California Individual Assistance Act: California Local Assistance Act.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have created two disaster relief programs to help individuals, families, and communities quickly recover from disasters due to, or exacerbated by, climate change.

**AB 2020 (Bonta) - Survivors of Human Trafficking Support Act.**

*Status: This bill was amended substantially on April 4, 2024, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.*

As referred to this Committee, would have required the California Health and Human Services Agency to establish a statewide human trafficking survivor passport program for the purposes of identifying a person as a survivor of human trafficking and increasing efficiency in providing assistance to them.

**AB 2033 (Reyes) - Public postsecondary education: electronic benefits transfer cards: basic needs services and resources.**

*Status: Chapter 913, Statutes of 2024*

Requires the CCCs and the California State University, and requests the University of California, to implement various programs and tools, as defined, to help students access basic needs resources on- and off-campus.

**AB 2150 (Arambula) - Public social services: higher education.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required CDSS to develop and facilitate training for basic needs directors and coordinators from campuses of the CCCs, the California State University, and the University of California, and would have required CDSS to convene a working group to identify and address barriers to student enrollment in social services offered by county human service agencies.

**AB 2207 (Reyes) - State boards and commissions: representatives of older adults.**

*Status: Chapter 332, Statutes of 2024*

Expands the membership of various advisory groups and bodies to include the Executive

Director of the California Commission on Aging, or others who serve or advocate on behalf of older adults.

**AB 2241 (Alvarez) - Public social services: reporting and verification.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required state and county agencies to accept information from public social services applicants and recipients reported in person, by telephone, through facsimile, or by secure and encrypted electronic means.

**AB 2818 (Mathis) - County jail: available social services.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required each county jail to provide each person incarcerated in the jail with contact information for specified agencies and resources.

**AB 3031 (Lee) - LGBTQ+ Commission.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have established the LGBTQ+ Commission within the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 3031 without my signature.

This bill would create the LGBTQ+ Commission within the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation to advise and make recommendations to the Legislature and Governor on policy matters affecting the state's LGBTQ+ community.

California leads the nation in celebrating people for who they are - fighting against hate through a comprehensive strategy and seeking to enshrine LGBTQ+ equality in the state's Constitution this November. Protecting and supporting the rights of LGBTQ+ people to equal treatment under the law has been a focus of this administration since day one, and it is work that I personally have championed throughout my career. Continuing this work to advance equity and fight against discrimination is integrated into the administration's ongoing effort to tackle disparities and strengthen our commitment to a California For All. While I appreciate the author's intent to provide a separate, additional venue for policy recommendations, this bill would lead to ongoing costs in the millions of dollars.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not

included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**ACA 7 (Jackson) - Government preferences: interventions or programs: exceptions.**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Senate Committee on Judiciary.*

Would have amended the California Constitution to allow the state to fund programs for the purpose of increasing the life expectancy of, improving educational outcomes for, or lifting out of poverty specific groups.

**SB 318 (Ochoa Bogh) - "2-1-1" information and referral network.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required, upon appropriation, CDSS to develop and administer the 2-1-1 Support Services Grant Program to stabilize, support, and expand 2-1-1 service to all areas of California.

## **Guaranteed Income**

**AB 2263 (Friedman) - The California Guaranteed Income Study and Funding Act.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have established the California Guaranteed Income Statewide Feasibility Study Act, upon appropriation, to assess administrative needs, explore funding mechanisms, and identify priority populations for a permanent statewide guaranteed income program.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2263 without my signature.

This bill would require the State Department of Social Services (DSS) to develop a California Guaranteed Income Statewide Feasibility Study to report on the feasibility and benefits of a statewide Guaranteed Income Program, by July 1, 2027, and would create a steering committee to inform the study.

The 2021-22 Budget Act provided \$35 million over five years for grants to administer a Guaranteed Income Pilot Program, which began enrollment in 2023. Additionally, the 2024-25 Budget Act provided another \$5 million for eligible adults 60 years of age or older. Considering that there is existing funding provided and

ongoing activity with the current guaranteed income pilots, this bill is premature. Further, the funding necessary to implement AB 2263 is not included in the budget.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**SB 333 (Cortese) - Homeless pupils: California Success, Opportunity, and Academic Resilience (SOAR) Guaranteed Income Program.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have, subject to an appropriation, established the California Success, Opportunity, and Academic Resilience Guaranteed Income Program, administered by CDSS, to provide \$1,000 monthly payments for four months to homeless students in grade 12.

## Homelessness

**AB 373 (Gipson) - Intersession programs: foster children and homeless youth: priority access.**

*Status: Chapter 327, Statutes of 2023*

Requires a local educational agency operating an intersession program to grant priority access to homeless and foster children and youth.

**AB 589 (Boerner) - Homeless youth: transitional housing.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have required, to the extent that funding was made available, the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish the Unicorn Homes Transitional Housing for Homeless LGBTQ+ Youth Program as a five-year pilot program.

**Governor's veto message:**

To Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 589 without my signature.

This bill, until January 1, 2027 and upon appropriation by the Legislature, would require the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to establish the Unicorn Homes Transitional Housing for Homeless LGBTQ+ Youth Program (Unicorn Program) as a pilot to be administered by local community-based organizations in Sacramento and San Diego Counties.

While I appreciate the author's commitment to providing housing for homeless LGBTQ+ youth, AB 589 creates an unfunded grant program that must be considered in the annual budget in the context of all state funding priorities.



In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 963 (Schiavo) - The End the Foster Care-to-Homelessness Pipeline Act.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have authorized the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank to establish one or more programs to guarantee qualified loans for the construction, acquisition, and renovation of housing for current or former foster youth 18 to 25 years of age.

**AB 1817 (Alanis) - Homeless youth.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have added the following to the responsibility of Cal ICH to set and measure: 1) Decrease the number of young people experiencing homelessness in the state who struggle with food insecurity; and, 2) Decrease the unemployment rate among young people experiencing homelessness by increasing access to employment opportunities and economic stability.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1817 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) to set additional goals to address food insecurity and unemployment among young people experiencing homelessness.

While I appreciate the author's focus on critical issues related to young people experiencing homelessness, the goals outlined in the bill lack specificity and are not

clearly defined. These goals also fall outside Cal ICH's current mandate under existing law, which already requires Cal ICH to set comprehensive goals to prevent and end homelessness among youth.

Furthermore, the data needed to effectively track and measure the progress of these goals is not readily available. This would necessitate the development of new data collection systems, which would require a significant financial commitment that was not accounted for in the 2024 Budget Act.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 1948 (Rendon) - Homeless multidisciplinary personnel teams.**

*Status: Chapter 94, Statutes of 2024*

Allows the homeless adult and family multidisciplinary personnel teams established in the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Clara, and Ventura to continue indefinitely, and adds the County of San Mateo to the list of participating counties.

**AB 2007 (Boerner) - Homeless youth: transitional housing.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish the Unicorn Homes Transitional Housing for Homeless LGBTQ+ Youth Program in up to five selected counties, as a pilot program administered by local community-based organizations.

**AB 2520 (Ramos) - Housing: youth-specific processes and coordinated entry systems.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required Cal ICH to ensure a continuum of care has a youth-specific process with their coordinated entry system.

**SB 246 (Ochoa Bogh) - California Interagency Council on Homelessness.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have added a representative from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to Cal ICH.

**SB 456 (Menjivar) - Multifamily Housing Program: nonprofit corporations: homeless or at-risk youth.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have permitted nonprofit corporations that provide emergency shelter or transitional housing to receive [Homekey] grants for housing projects solely serving homeless youth, youth at risk of experiencing homelessness, and current or former foster youth.

**SB 491 (Durazo) - Public social services: county departments: mail programs.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required local county entities administering public benefits to develop and implement a program for homeless residents to receive and pick up government-related mail; and, would have required each county to provide participants with information on program requirements and hours of operation.

**SB 842 (Jones) - California Interagency Council on Homelessness.**

*Status: This bill was amended substantially on September 8, 2023, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.*

As heard by this Committee, would have added the DDS Director to Cal ICH and was an urgency measure.

**SB 1443 (Jones) - California Interagency Council on Homelessness.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have added a representative from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to the members of Cal ICH.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1443 without my signature.

This bill would add a representative from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) to serve as a member of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH).

Cal ICH was created to coordinate an all-of-government approach to prevent and end homelessness in California. Cal ICH consists of 20 members, including the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Agency responsible for services for people with developmental disabilities and leading the Master Plan for Developmental Services. The Cal ICH Advisory Committee is also required to include a representative with a developmental disability who is currently or has formerly experienced homelessness.

Since Cal ICH already includes leaders from relevant state agencies and individuals with lived experience, the existing representation makes this bill unnecessary.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

## **Immigration Services**

### **AB 325 (Reyes) - Human services: noncitizen victims.**

*Status: Held on the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have allowed applicants who have completed their formal application with the appropriate federal agency for status or relief under the federal Violence Against Women Act, special immigrant juvenile status, or asylum status to be eligible for certain public social services and health care services offered through current law to noncitizen victims.

### **AB 435 (Cervantes) - Public social services: automated application process.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required CalSAWS to accept and process qualified applicants of CAPI, the Trafficking and Crime Victim Assistance Program, and Refugee Cash Assistance to the current list of automated applications.

### **AB 617 (Jones-Sawyer) - One California program.**

*Status: Assembly Committee on Judiciary hearing postponed by the Committee.*

Would have made changes to the One California programmatic requirements that nonprofit legal services organizations must meet to get funding; would have expanded the scope of services and who is eligible to receive services; and, would have convened an advisory committee.

### **AB 1536 (Juan Carrillo) - Cash Assistance Program for Aged, Blind, and Disabled Immigrants.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have, upon appropriation, expanded eligibility for CAPI to all individuals regardless of immigration status; would have deleted obsolete language; and, would have deleted requirements to apply for SSI/SSP in order to qualify for CAPI.

### **Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1536 without my signature.

This bill would expand eligibility for the Cash Assistance Program for Aged, Blind, and Disabled Legal Immigrants (CAPI) program to include all eligible immigrants, regardless of their legal immigration status.

While I appreciate the author's goal to expand CAPI eligibility regardless of immigration status, enacting this policy without providing funding would not be prudent nor would it meet its intended purpose. My Administration has taken significant steps to support the undocumented community, including the recent expansion of eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal, regardless of immigration status. This year, the 2023 Budget Act includes \$40 million to begin automation and outreach efforts to expand the California Food Assistance Program to income-eligible individuals aged 55 years or older, regardless of their immigration status.

This bill would result in significant costs of over \$100 million General Fund annually, because CAPI is a state-only program. These costs must be considered alongside other budgetary priorities as part of the annual budget process. In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 2031 (Jones-Sawyer) - One California program.**

*Status: Assembly Committee on Judiciary hearing cancelled by the Author.*

Would have amended the One California program to expand the types of services qualifying nonprofit legal services organizations may provide utilizing grant funding; would have restructured the experience needed from such organizations in order to qualify for grants; and, would have repealed a restriction on the use of grant funds to provide services for individuals with serious or violent felony convictions.

**AB 2155 (Ting) - Bilingual-Oriented Social Equity Services Grant Program.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have established a grant program within CDSS to provide funding to nonprofit community-based organizations for pay differentials to direct service professionals who communicate in a language or medium other than English as part of their job duties.

**AB 2218 (Santiago) - Enhanced Services for Asylees and Vulnerable Noncitizens (ESAVN) program.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have extended eligibility for grants or contracts awarded pursuant to the Enhanced Services for Asylees and Vulnerable Noncitizens program to nonprofit organizations with one year, rather than three years, of experience providing case management services and linguistically and culturally appropriate services.

**AB 2224 (Santiago) - Human services: special immigrant juvenile status.**

*Status: Chapter 955, Statutes of 2024*

Requires a court to provide a certified copy of an order that includes the special immigrant juvenile status (SIJS)-related determination within three court days of the day of the hearing or the date the proposed order was submitted, whichever is later, if a request for expedited processing has been submitted; and, permits the court, as it relates to an SIJS petition, to appoint a parent as the guardian of the person of their unmarried child who is between 18 and 21 years of age.

**AB 2415 (Juan Carrillo) - Cash assistance for aged, blind, and disabled immigrants.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have, upon an appropriation, expanded eligibility for CAPI to all eligible individuals regardless of immigration status; and, would have waived the requirement that an applicant must apply and be denied SSI/SSP before being eligible for benefits under CAPI.

**AJR 17 (Jackson) - Federal aid.**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Assembly Committee on Human Services.*

Would have requested the Congress of the United States to engage in a collaborative effort with, and provide financial support to, California for the purpose of addressing the pressing humanitarian needs of asylum seekers, including by developing long-term solutions, providing operational support for asylum seekers released into California, and appropriating to California the federal dollars necessary to continue migrant services for fiscal year 2025–26.

**SB 85 (Wiener) - Immigration: case management and social services.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have allowed state funds, if appropriated, to be used in addition to federal funds for the extension of refugee social services for up to 90 days.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 85 without my signature.

This bill allows the Department of Social Services (DSS) to allocate state funds for refugee social services programs, and extends the duration of services available for

refugees, after they have exhausted their federally funded services, by an additional 90 days.

I appreciate the intent of this bill and thank the Legislature for its commitment to assist refugees with resettlement in this state. California is one of the most welcoming states in the nation and works in partnership to support an array of services to help refugees resettle in California. This includes legal services, management of federal funds, technical assistance with local partners, programs for young refugees, expedited professional licensing, and more. The state also supports people seeking humanitarian protections through an immigration process different from federally managed refugee resettlement.

However, providing extended case management services to refugees beyond the three months of services provided by the federal government would create significant, ongoing cost pressures on the state General Fund.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**SB 245 (Hurtado) - California Food Assistance Program: eligibility and benefits.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have removed the 55 years and older age limit for noncitizens eligible for the California Food Assistance Program if the noncitizens satisfy all eligibility criteria for participation in CalFresh except any requirements related to immigration status.

**SB 465 (Wahab) - Refugees.**

*Status: Chapter 399, Statutes of 2023*

Requires CDSS to post a list of resources available to refugees and a link to the internet website of each county human assistance agency on its website.

**SB 831 (Caballero) - Department of Community Services and Development: pilot program: lawful permanent residents.**

*Status: This bill was amended substantially on September 1, 2023, such that it no longer fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee.*

As heard by this Committee, allowed the Governor to enter an agreement with the federal

government to establish a workgroup to develop a permanent resident pilot program for an agricultural employee.

**SB 1078 (Min) - Language access.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have established the Office of Language Access (OLA) within CalHHS to ensure individuals with limited English proficiency have meaningful access to government programs and services; would have required each department and office within CalHHS to develop a Language Access Plan (LAP), as specified; would have required CalHHS to develop a LAP Guidance Document to support the development of LAPs; and, would have required OLA to maintain a website to provide language access information.

**In-Home Supportive Services and Home Care Services**

**AB 1005 (Alvarez) - In-home supportive services: terminal illness diagnosis.**

*Status: Chapter 346, Statutes of 2024*

Requires a hospital's designated case manager or discharge planner to evaluate a patient's need for post-hospital services and ability to access those services, if that patient is being discharged from an acute care hospital and a Medi-Cal beneficiary; and, requires the hospital's designated case manager or discharge planner to provide information to patients, if the patient is anticipated to need in-home personal care, about the IHSS program and provide informational documents, as specified.

**AB 1387 (Ting) - In-Home Supportive Services Program: provider shortage: grant-based outreach program.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have established a grant program to encourage immigrants to become IHSS providers; would have requires CDSS to administer the grant program, collect data, and provide a report to the Legislature; and, would have required grantees to perform specified activities and report data.

**AB 2704 (Zbur) - In-home supportive services: criminal background checks.**

*Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom.*

Would have waived the Department of Justice background check fee for persons seeking to become an IHSS provider.

**Governor's veto message:**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2704 without my signature.

This bill waives the Department of Justice (DOJ) fees for prospective In-Home Supportive Service (IHSS) providers seeking an investigation or criminal background check, and prohibits the DOJ from assessing a fee to a county for the



costs of furnishing clinical history information.

I am supportive of efforts to increase the IHSS workforce and reduce barriers to becoming an IHSS provider. However, this bill would require millions annually from the General Fund to cover DOJ costs for conducting background checks.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closes a \$46.8 billion deficit in 2024-25 and a projected deficit of \$27.3 billion in 2025-26 through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

**AB 2819 (Bains) - In-home supportive services: collective bargaining penalty.**

*Status: Not set for hearing by the Assembly Human Services Committee.*

As referred to this Committee, would have made unspecified changes to the 1991 Realignment funding structure.

**AB 3079 (Ting) - In-Home Supportive Services program: undocumented related providers.**

*Status: Held on the Assembly Committee on Appropriations suspense file.*

Would have required CDSS to develop and issue guidance to ensure undocumented immigrants are afforded access to become IHSS providers for family members of the fifth-degree; and would have requires these providers be exempt from criminal background checks otherwise required for IHSS providers.

## **Rehabilitation Services**

**AB 857 (Ortega) - Vocational services: formerly incarcerated persons.**

*Status: Chapter 167, Statutes of 2023*

Requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to provide each inmate, upon release and regardless of speculative eligibility, informational written materials in a format prescribed by the Department of Rehabilitation for vocational rehabilitation services and independent living programs, and an application for vocational rehabilitation services; and, updates the definition of vocational rehabilitation services to also mean "services to formerly incarcerated persons with disabilities, designed to promote rehabilitation and reduce the likelihood of recidivism."

**AB 3193 (Calderon) - State acquisitions of goods and services: rehabilitation services.**

*Status: Chapter 253, Statutes of 2024*

Permits the Department of Rehabilitation to award a contract without competition or advertising if the value of the purchase is less than \$10,000 and meets specified requirements.

## Oversight and Informational Hearings

### 2023 Hearings:

Joint Oversight Hearing of the Assembly and Senate Human Services Committees  
**2023-25 Community Services Block Grant State Plan:** The purpose of this Joint Oversight Hearing was to update the Legislature on the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) which provides federal dollars to states to address and alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty across California's communities. By working with local eligible entities, CSBG funds are utilized to provide community-level anti-poverty services and promote self-sufficiency among the individuals eligible to receive services. (August 22, 2023)

Joint Oversight Hearing of the Assembly Housing & Community Development, Accountability & Administrative Review, Health, and Human Services Committees  
**Coordinating California's Homelessness Services: 2023 Landscape:** The purpose of this Joint Oversight Hearing was to understand the full scope of the state's investments in homelessness to understand what is working and what needs improvement. (February 15, 2023)

**Departmental Informational Hearing:** The focus of this hearing was on introducing the California Health and Human Services Agency, along with the various Departments that fall within the jurisdiction of the committee. This was an opportunity for Assemblymembers, staff, and members of the public to gain understanding of what the Agency and each Departments' responsibilities are within the state. (March 14, 2023)

Hearing materials may be found on the Committee's website at:  
<https://ahum.assembly.ca.gov/hearings/2023-24-oversight-informational-hearings>