

2017

2017 Legislative Bill Summary

Assembly Committee on Human Services

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Assembly Committee on Human Services

2017 Legislative Bill Summary



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ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
2017 LEGISLATIVE BILL SUMMARY
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**ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
BLANCA E. RUBIO, CHAIR**

2017 LEGISLATIVE BILL SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Assembly Committee on Human Services has jurisdiction over programs and services designed to assist the state's most vulnerable populations, including children who have been abused or neglected, people with disabilities, low-income families, and the elderly. In the first year of the 2017-18 Legislative Session, 96 bills were referred to and maintained by the Committee, 53 were passed by the Legislature, and 48 became law.

A complete summary of bills referred to the Human Services Committee in 2017 follows.

CALFRESH

AB 164 (Arambula) Food assistance.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

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

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

In the Assembly Appropriations Committee, 2 year bill.

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

AB 214 (Weber) Postsecondary education: student hunger.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 134, Statutes of 2017.

This bill defines “on-campus food vendors” in statute as any vendor that does not sell prepared food for onsite consumption or who sells food from a mobile facility, and defines “qualifying food facility” as a facility that sells prepared food for onsite consumption. This bill states that a student, for purposes of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) student eligibility, is determined to attend at least half-time during any semester or term in which he or she enrolls in school in at least half the required number of credits that is needed each term in order to graduate within four years. This bill also requires the California Student Aid Commission to notify any Cal Grant recipient whose grant includes any funding from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant or state match, so that the student may verify that he or she qualifies for exemption from CalFresh student eligibility rules. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to maintain an identified list of programs that students may attend in order to qualify for a CalFresh eligibility exemption, and instructs DSS to issue instructions to county welfare agencies to verify CalFresh student eligibility exemptions for students who meet certain criteria. This bill also defines “anticipating participation” in work-study to mean instances when a student can reasonably expect or foresee being assigned a work-study job, and deems a student to be anticipating participation on work-study until he or she receives notice from the school that he or she has been denied work-study participation. This bill requires DSS to implement the provisions of this bill no later than October 1, 2018.

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

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

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

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

Association of California to issue guidance to counties participating in CFET program services of any special considerations for partnering with employment social enterprises.

AB 563 (Arambula) CalFresh Employment and Training program.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 343, Statutes of 2017.

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

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

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

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

AB 625 (Quirk-Silva) CalFresh.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

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

SB 278 (Wiener) CalFresh: overissuance.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 388, Statutes of 2017.

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

SB 282 (Wiener) CalFresh and CalWORKs.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 355, Statutes of 2017.

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

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

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

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

days plus any authorized delay from the date of the county human services agency's possession of that information.

SB 675 (Skinner) Electronic benefits transfer system.

Ordered to the inactive file at the request of Assembly Member Calderon.

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

CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs)

AB 160 (Mark Stone) CalWORKs: eligibility.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

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

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

In the Assembly Appropriations Committee, 2 year bill.

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

AB 227 (Mayes) CalWORKs: education incentives.

In the Senate Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would create the CalWORKs Educational Opportunity and Attainment Program to offer education grants and/or stipends to eligible CalWORKs participants, provided certain conditions were met (including that the relevant educational program was included in the participant's welfare-to-work plan). Specifically, this bill would enable a CalWORKs recipient to apply to receive an education grant of \$100 per month (as an ongoing adjustment to a participant's monthly CalWORKs cash grant) for completion of a high school diploma or its equivalent, and a CalWORKs recipient to apply to receive education stipends totaling no more than \$2,400 per year for enrollment in an education or training program leading to a career technical education program certificate, associate's

degree, or bachelor's degree. This bill would also appropriate \$20 million to the California Community Colleges for the CalWORKs Recipients Education Program and would require \$10 million of this appropriation to be used solely to support CalWORKs recipients in completing their high school education or equivalent. The provisions of this bill would be made contingent upon an appropriation in the annual Budget Act.

AB 236 (Maienschein) CalWORKs: housing assistance.

Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 545, Statutes of 2017.

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

AB 480 (Gonzalez Fletcher) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: necessary supportive services.

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

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

AB 557 (Rubio) CalWORKs: victims of abuse.

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

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

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

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

AB 818 (Burke) CalWORKs: welfare to work.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 141, Statutes of 2017.

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

AB 910 (Ridley-Thomas) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work activities: hours.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 318, Statutes of 2017.

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

AB 992 (Arambula) CalWORKs: Baby Wellness and Family Support Home Visiting Program.
In the Senate Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

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

AB 1604 (Nazarian) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: education.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 303, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires a CalWORKs recipient who has not yet received his or her high school diploma or its equivalent to be offered a welfare-to-work plan to participate in a high school education program or equivalency program. This bill does not require a recipient to participate in a high school equivalency program; that recipient may choose to engage in a job club, job search, or other permitted activities if he or she declines in writing to participate in a high school education or equivalency program.

SB 360 (Skinner) Public social services: prosecution for overpayment or overissuance of benefits.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 390, Statutes of 2017.

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

SB 380 (Bradford) CalWORKs: child support.

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

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

SB 570 (Newman) CalWORKs.

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

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

CHILD CARE

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

Vetoed by the Governor.

This bill would have required the California Department of Education (CDE) to develop and administer a pilot program to provide, through county child care resource and referral programs, outreach, training, and technical assistance to license-exempt child care providers. If a county opted to participate in the pilot program, this bill would have required a county resource and referral program to, in collaboration with other local entities supporting early childhood care and education, develop a community-based program model that met certain requirements, including, among other things, prioritizing providing services to license-exempt child care providers serving children between the ages of zero and five. This bill would have authorized a resource and referral program to, to the extent possible, seek grants from or partnerships with private foundations or other philanthropic entities in order to expand the training opportunities for license-exempt child care providers. This bill would have also required, by January 1, 2020, and by January 1, 2022, each county that opted to participate in the pilot program to provide a report to CDE and the Legislature on certain demographic and descriptive data related to the pilots and the provisions of this bill would have sunset on July 1, 2022.

AB 60 (Santiago and Gonzalez Fletcher) Subsidized child care and development services: eligibility periods.

In the Senate Education Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would provide for changes to eligibility determination and redetermination for subsidized child care by adopting 6- and 12-month continuous eligibility and increasing income eligibility thresholds. Specifically, this bill would require that a family, upon establishing initial or ongoing eligibility, be considered continuously eligible and not have to report changes to family income that do not exceed the threshold for ongoing eligibility for at least a 12-month period, unless that family established eligibility on the basis of seeking employment. For a family that establishes initial eligibility on the basis of seeking employment, this bill would require that they receive services for not less than six months and for a family that establishes ongoing eligibility on the basis of seeking employment, this bill would require that they receive services for six additional months unless the family becomes otherwise eligible. This bill would specify that a family would be "income eligible" for subsidized child care services if their adjusted monthly income is at or below 70% of the state median income (SMI) based on the most recent data published by the United States Census Bureau for a family of the same size, and a family would be "ongoing income eligible" if their adjusted monthly income is at or below 85% of the SMI based on the same data. This bill would also permit a family to, at any time, voluntarily report income or other changes for purposes of reducing a family's fees, increasing a family's subsidy, or extending the period of the family's eligibility prior to redetermination. This bill would authorize a family that receives first priority for subsidized child care services to be exempt from family fees for up to 12 months.

AB 231 (Chávez) Subsidized child care: eligibility.

In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

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

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

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

This bill authorizes Fresno County to establish a subsidized child care pilot program that enables the county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2023. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for the individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that the plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit the county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill allows the plan to include Stage 1 child care services and all voucher-based child care programs. This bill also requires the county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the

California Department of Education (CDE) each year. This bill requires CDE to review the report, along with any applicable programmatic and fiscal compliance records, and determine whether to allow the county to continue with the plan without change, or whether to require modifications to be made to the plan.

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

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

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

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

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

This bill authorizes Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties to establish subsidized child care pilot programs that enable each county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2023. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for each individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that each plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit a county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill allows each plan to include Stage 1 child care services and all voucher-based child care programs. This bill also requires each county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Education (CDE) each year. This bill requires CDE to review the report, along with any applicable programmatic and fiscal compliance records, and determine whether to allow the county to continue with the plan without change, or whether to require modifications to be made to the plan. The bill also makes changes to Santa Clara County's existing subsidized child care pilot program by, among other things, broadening language regarding funding sources that are eligible to be included in Santa Clara County's plan and specifying that the local policy developed by Santa Clara County ensures that families qualifying for CalWORKs Stages 2 and 3 child care are provided the same or higher level of benefit as families that qualify for other subsidized child care programs.

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

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

This bill authorizes San Diego and Solano Counties to establish subsidized child care pilot programs that enable each county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2023. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for each individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that each plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit a county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill allows each plan to include Stage 1 child care services and all voucher-based child care programs. This bill also requires each county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Education (CDE)

each year. This bill requires CDE to review the report, along with any applicable programmatic and fiscal compliance records, and determine whether to allow the county to continue with the plan without change, or whether to require modifications to be made to the plan.

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

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

This bill authorizes Contra Costa, Marin, and Sonoma Counties to establish subsidized child care pilot programs that enable each county to develop and implement an individualized county child care subsidy plan until January 1, 2023. This bill establishes requirements and an approval process for each individualized county child care subsidy plan and clarifies that each plan, and requirements regarding it, shall not be construed to permit a county to change the regional market rate survey results for the county. This bill allows each plan to include Stage 1 child care services and all voucher-based child care programs. This bill also requires each county to, by the end of the first fiscal year of operation under the approved plan, demonstrate an increase in the aggregate days a child is enrolled in child care and requires the county to submit a report on the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Education (CDE) each year. This bill requires CDE to review the report, along with any applicable programmatic and fiscal compliance records, and determine whether to allow the county to continue with the plan without change, or whether to require modifications to be made to the plan. The bill also makes changes to Alameda County's existing subsidized child care pilot program by, among other things, broadening language regarding funding sources that are eligible to be included in Santa Clara County's plan and specifying that the local policy developed by Alameda County ensures that families qualifying for CalWORKs Stages 2 and 3 child care are provided the same or higher level of benefit as families that qualify for other subsidized child care programs.

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

In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

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

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

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

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

effective date of the intended action and further, requires that this notification not be deemed a violation of a parent's confidentiality.

AB 676 (Limón) Child care and development: occupational health and safety training.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

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

AB 752 (Rubio) Child care: state preschool programs: expulsion.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 708, Statutes of 2017.

This bill prohibits a State Preschool contracting agency from expelling or unenrolling a child because of a child's behavior except in instances when the contracting agency has pursued and documented reasonable steps to maintain the child's safe participation in the program and determined, in consultation with certain entities including the child's parents or legal guardians, that the child's continued enrollment would present a serious safety threat to the child or other enrolled children, at which point the contracting agency must refer the parents or legal guardians to other resources or placements and then may unenroll the child. This bill requires a State Preschool contracting agency, if a child exhibits continuing and serious challenging behaviors, to pursue and document reasonable steps, including consulting with the child's parents or legal guardians and teacher, to maintain the child's safe participation in the program and to either seek, with written permission from the parent, consultation on a child's existing individualized family service plan (IFSP) or individualized education program (IEP), or to consider completing a universal screening of a child who doesn't have an IFSP or IEP prior to referring the child's parents or legal guardians to the local agency responsible for implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This bill also requires the Department of Social Services to consider, in determining whether to issue a citation or impose a civil penalty related to licensure, to a child day care facility that contracts with the California Department of Education, whether that day care facility is in the process of complying with the provisions of this bill.

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

This bill requires an alternative payment program (APP) to have at least 36 months to expend funds allocated to that program in any fiscal year and requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to

develop a contracting process enabling this expenditure timeframe; this spending timeframe does not apply to CalWORKs Stages Two and Three child care contracts.

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

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

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

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES / FOSTER CARE

AB 320 (Cooley) Child Advocacy Centers.

In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

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

AB 404 (Mark Stone) Foster care.

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

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

AB 507 (Rubio) Resource families: training topics.

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

This bill requires a portion of the annual resource family training support the case plans, goals and needs of children in the resource family home in accordance with applicable written directives or

regulations as specified by the Department of Social Services. This bill also allows a county, at its discretion, to require a resource family or applicant to receive one or more hours of relevant specialized training in addition to the training already required by state law.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Vetoed by the Governor.

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

AB 991 (Reyes) Foster youth: independent living services.
In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would require the Department of Social Services (DSS) by January 1, 2019, to complete, in consultation with various stakeholders, a comprehensive evaluation of the Independent Living Program established by federal law, and develop recommendations available to the public on how independent living services can better prepare foster youth for independence and adulthood.

AB 1006 (Maienschein) Foster youth.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 714, Statutes of 2017.

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

AB 1039 (Quirk-Silva) As introduced February 16, 2017: CalFresh: nonminor dependents: supervised independent living placement. As amended March 14, 2017: Racial and identity profiling: reporting: peace officer.
In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

While originally and currently referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was amended substantially on March 14, 2017, and no longer relates to human services.

AB 1164 (Thurmond) As introduced February 17, 2017: Foster care placement: funding. As amended July 6, 2017: School district annual budgets and certificated school employees. In Senate Education Committee, 2 year bill.

While originally referred to and heard by the Assembly Human Services Committee, this bill was amended substantially on July 6, 2017, and no longer relates to human services.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AB 1446 (Cooley) Dependent children: periodic review hearing.
Ordered to the inactive file at the Request of Senator Monning.

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

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

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

SB 12 (Beall) Foster youth: postsecondary education: financial aid assistance.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 722, Statutes of 2017.

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

SB 190 (Mitchell and Lara) Juveniles.

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

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

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

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

This bill makes a number of changes related to criminal record exemptions for certain caregivers and specifies the criteria the Department of Social Services (DSS) must consider when deciding whether to grant a criminal records exemption. This bill prohibits giving final approval for an adoptive placement where the prospective adoptive parent or an adult living in the home has been convicted of an offense for which an exemption cannot be granted as defined by the provisions of the bill. This bill allows certain approving entities to grant an exemption from disqualification as a caregiver if there is a reasonable belief that the individual is of present good character and the conviction is for certain crimes specified by the provisions of the bill. This bill also prohibits a child from being placed in the home of an able and willing relative, nonrelated extended family member, or a relative, prospective guardian or other person who is not a licensed or certified foster parent if the criminal records check indicates that the person has been convicted of a crime for which an exemption cannot be offered, or if the individual has not been granted a criminal record exemption. This bill allows a child to be placed on an emergency basis if it is determined that the placement is in the best interest of the child and there is no objection to the placement. This bill denies approval of a resource family home if a criminal record check shows that a person has been convicted of a non-exemptible offense, and specifies that if the criminal records check shows that the person has been convicted of an offense that may require an exemption, then the home may not be approved unless an exemption is granted. This bill also requires DSS to convene a stakeholder group to develop and implement recommendations for streamlining the criminal exemptions process for prospective employees in children's residential settings.

SB 233 (Beall) Foster children: records.

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

This bill expands the list of individuals who may access a currently enrolled or former student's educational records to include certain short-term residential therapeutic program (STRTP) staff, and certain caregivers, including a certified or licensed foster parent, an approved relative or nonrelated extended family member, or a resource family. This bill authorizes a caregiver to access certain information regardless of whether the caregiver has been appointed as the pupil's educational rights holder and allows certain individuals to review pupil records. This bill specifies caregivers' rights to access and maintain educational and health information, and includes the caregivers' role in education as part of the training requirements that must be completed by resource family applicants. This bill also specifies the instances in which a caregiver who is not the student's educational rights holder must notify the educational rights holder, or the student's social worker or attorney, of certain information. This bill also addresses the rights of certain caregivers to maintain health and education information, and specifies the duties of certain individuals in assisting caregivers to obtain relevant health and education information. This bill also requires the health and education summary to

include the contact information of the individual holding the right to make educational decisions for the child, and allows that contact information to be withheld in certain circumstances. This bill requires the health and education summary be included in an assessment whenever the court orders a hearing to terminate parental rights, and be included in the mandated supplemental report related to the periodic review of a youth in foster care. This bill also requires a youth's case plan to include the health and education summary, a factual discussion of educational decisions, and an assurance that the placement agency provided the health and education passport to the current caregiver.

SB 245 (Leyva) Foster youth: sexual health education.
In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would require the Department of Social Services (DSS) to develop a curriculum relating to sexual and reproductive health care for foster youth and nonminor dependents which includes the rights of foster youth to sexual and reproductive health care information and the right to confidentiality, how to document sensitive health information, and guidance on how to engage with foster youth regarding healthy sexual development, among other factors. This bill would permit the use of the curriculum among and in the classroom instruction provided by administrator certification programs for group homes and short-term residential therapeutic programs (STRTPs), certified foster parent annual training, statewide coordinated training programs for mandated child abuse reporters, preapproval caregiver training topics for resource family applicants, and the training developed by the Judicial Council for the education and training of judges. This bill would also specify that the case plan for foster youth who are 10 years of age or older be updated to reflect whether the youth received comprehensive sexual health education during the previous year, and would require, in the event that the youth did not receive the education, the case plan to document either that the youth has already received the education during middle school or high school, or how the county will ensure that the youth will receive the education at least once prior to exiting middle school or high school, as applicable. This bill also would require the case plan for foster youth who are 10 years of age and older be updated yearly to indicate that the case manager has: informed the youth that he or she may access medically accurate information regarding sexual health care, informed the youth in an appropriate way of his or her rights to consent to sexual and reproductive health services, and informed the youth about how to access those services. This bill also would specify that updates to the youth's case plan regarding sexual health education may not be construed to affect applicable confidentiality laws.

SB 332 (Stern) Voter registration: foster youth.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 161, Statutes of 2017.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to provide voter registration information on certain documents and Internet Web sites used by foster youth and nonminor dependents, including: a flyer for the Independent Living Program, the form used for a nonminor dependent to enter into a mutual agreement or voluntary reentry agreement, the form used to create a transitional independent living plan, the department's Internet Web site for the Independent Living Program, and the Office of the Foster Care Ombudsman's Internet Web site, and requires the information include the voter registration page on the Secretary of State's Internet Web site, the toll-free telephone number maintained by the Secretary of State that contains election-related information, and the email address of the Secretary of State. This bill allows a county social worker to provide a voter registration form to a foster child 16 years of age or older or to a nonminor dependent, and allows

DSS to implement the provisions of this bill by means of an all-county letter or similar instructions without taking regulatory action.

SB 426 (Pan) Community-based home visitation pilot program.
In the Assembly Appropriations Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would establish the Community-Based Home Visitation Program as a pilot program in up to three counties to provide child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention services through one family resource center in each county, to be implemented to the extent an appropriation is made for the purposes of this bill. This bill would require the Department of Social Services' Office of Child Abuse Prevention (Office) to administer the program and would permit the Office to contract with a vendor or vendors for administration of some or all of the program. This bill would place a number of requirements on family resource centers participating in the pilot program including, among other things, that the center use an evidence-based, community-based home visitation model and provide services that are respectful of all members of the community and reflect the diversity of the population culturally and linguistically. This bill would stipulate that any funds appropriated for the implementation of the pilot program shall not supplant or replace any existing funding for programs currently serving the needs of at-risk children and families, and would permit the administering agency of a county in which a pilot site was located to integrate the pilot program into existing county plans for child abuse prevention programs. This bill would also require the Office to secure an independent evaluator to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of each pilot program and to report interim and final results of this evaluation to the Legislature. The provisions of this bill would sunset on January 1, 2025.

SB 438 (Roth) Juveniles: legal guardianship: successor guardian.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 307, Statutes of 2017.

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

SB 612 (Mitchell) Foster care: transitional housing.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 731, Statutes of 2017.

This bill specifies a number of requirements for program and case managers for transitional housing placement programs for nonminor dependents, including educational requirements, documentation of education and experience, and the process for seeking an exemption from these requirements, and clarifies educational requirements for social workers at a foster family agency. This bill includes licensure as a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor in the list of educational areas that an individual who has a master's degree or higher may be considered qualified to perform social work activities in a foster family agency. This bill clarifies the existing definition of "transitional housing placement provider," and allows a certified foster family home or resource family of a foster family agency to be concurrently certified as a host family if certain criteria are met. This bill allows a transitional housing placement provider to operate either a transitional housing placement program for participants who are minor foster children or who are nonminor dependents. This bill makes a

number of changes to the operational requirements of transitional housing placement programs, including adopting changes to compliance requirements with certain health and safety standards, delineating the permissible types of transitional housing units, and including a program statement in the provider's plan of operation. This bill authorizes a nonminor dependent to cosign a lease with the Department of Social Services (DSS) while prohibiting a participant from solely signing a rental or lease agreement. This bill also enumerates a list of required, age-appropriate regulations to govern transitional placement providers. This bill also addresses issues of evaluating and placing minor and nonminor program participants with nonparticipants and authorizes DSS to implement the provisions of this bill through all-county letters or similar written instructions.

COMMUNITY CARE LICENSING

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

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

AB 605 (Mullin) Day care centers: birth to first grade license option.
In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would require the Department of Social Services to adopt regulations by January 1, 2019, to develop and implement a birth-to-entering-first-grade license option for day care centers, to include age-appropriate transition periods, a requirement that the licensee list the age groups of children being served at the day care center, and a requirement that all other day care center licensing regulations apply to this licensing option. This bill would also provide that a new applicant for a birth-to-entering-first-grade license may be charged a regulatory fee commensurate with the other age-specific facility license fee schedules, and would require a day care center licensee to meet regulatory and inspection standards based, respectively, on the age groups of children being cared

for and on the current license until that existing license has been replaced with a birth-to-entering-first-grade license option.

AB 713 (Chu) Continuing care retirement facilities: transfers of residents.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 613, Statutes of 2017.

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

AB 853 (Choi) Continuing care retirement communities.
In the Assembly Aging and Long Term Care Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would expand the definition of a “repayable contract” for continuing care facilities as a continuing care contract that includes a promise to repay all or a portion of an entrance fee that is based on the sequential order of termination of all repayable contracts at the facility. This bill would also specify, for purposes of restrictions placed on construction of a continuing care retirement community, that construction on a continuing care retirement community does not include the construction of care facilities or buildings that provide community amenities and services or otherwise are not residential living units, and would require DSS to consider the availability of financing to cover any projected shortfalls in revenues from resident fees when determining the economic viability of a continuing care retirement community. This bill would also allow a provider to satisfy all or a portion of its liquid reserve requirement with the available or unused portion of a surety bond.

AB 1437 (Patterson) California Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly Act: licensing.
Ordered to the inactive file at the request of Senator Wiener.

This bill would stipulate that an individual with a current criminal record clearance who is employed at a residential care facility for the elderly (RCFE) does not need to transfer his or her clearance to an RCFE operated by the same licensee, and would exempt an individual who is certified as an administrator of an RCFE from having to complete the licensure certification program when applying for licensure of a facility.

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

AB 279 (Holden) Developmental disabilities: regional centers.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

This bill would have required the cost model design used to establish rates for facilities serving people with developmental disabilities to consider changes in local minimum wage, and would have

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

AB 959 (Holden) Developmental services: regional centers.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 474, Statutes of 2017.

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

AB 1170 (Cooley) Developmental disabilities: competitive integrated employment ombudsperson.
In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would create the office of the Competitive Integrated Employment Ombudsperson within the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) in order to provide services to individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities and define the “California Competitive Integrated Employment Blueprint” or “Blueprint” as the plan developed through the partnership with the California Department of Education, Department of Rehabilitation, Department of Developmental Services (DDS), and stakeholders, under the leadership of the California Health and Human Services Agency, to increase opportunities for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities to prepare for and participate in competitive integrated employment. This bill would also stipulate that all communications received by the Competitive Integrated Employment Ombudsperson during the course of his or her duties are confidential, and require the Competitive Integrated Employment Ombudsperson to submit an annual report to the Governor, the Director of DDS, and the Employment First Committee of the SCDD that details certain information regarding implementation of the Blueprint.

AB 1258 (Aguiar-Curry) Developmental services.
In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would afford individuals with developmental disabilities certain rights related to dignity, privacy, prompt medical treatment, and religious freedom and practice, among others that are currently enumerated as Legislative intent. The bill would also make it declaratory of existing law

that the rights enumerated in current law apply to a person with developmental disabilities in a developmental center, community placement, or other housing placement.

AB 1380 (Santiago) Developmental services: regional center services.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

This bill would have required the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to conduct a review of in-home respite provider rates no later than November 1, 2018, to include information regarding vendor cost statements, hourly wages paid to respite workers, and temporary hourly rates. This bill would have required DDS to report the results of the review to the Legislature, as well as a proposal of necessary Legislative changes regarding in-home hourly respite rates, on or before January 1, 2020, and would have repealed the reporting requirements of this bill as of January 1, 2024. This bill also would have made changes to the contracts between DDS and regional centers, and would have required those contracts to include the requirement that regional centers develop a process to review all vendor contracts every two years, the outcome of which would be documented in the regional center's files, and the requirement that a regional center take appropriate action in order to ensure vendors comply with contracts. This bill would have required regional centers to submit to DDS within three months of the end of the biennial period the findings of their reviews, and would have required DDS to submit a report to the Legislature, within three months of receiving the reviews, detailing the outcome of the reviews, and what steps are being taken to ensure vendor contract compliance. This bill also would have required an employer, prior to employing an in-home respite worker, to submit the person's fingerprints to the Department of Justice (DOJ) in order to obtain criminal record information, and would have enumerated a number of requirements that must be complied with in order to obtain the criminal record information of in-home respite workers from DOJ.

AB 1607 (Frazier) Developmental services: integrated competitive employment.
Vetoed by the Governor.

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

AB 1610 (Ridley-Thomas) Developmental services: regional centers.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

This bill would have placed additional requirements on regional centers in order to increase access for consumers and their families to certain information; these requirements included directing regional centers to provide consumers and/or their representatives and family members information

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

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

This resolution would declare Legislative intent that individuals with developmental disabilities should continue to be supported using the proceeds from the sale of developmental center properties, any cost difference between provision of services in a developmental center versus through a regional center, and the revenues generated from reuse or continued innovative use of developmental center properties. This resolution would also declare Legislative intent to establish a working group to ascertain how the sale or reuse of developmental center properties can be utilized for the maximum benefit of individuals with developmental disabilities in a way that optimizes use of moneys in the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Trust Fund without violating the Constitution's requirements regarding the disposition of surplus properties. This resolution would provide that the Legislature encourages the creation of a self-sustaining mechanism to support individuals with developmental disabilities, and would declare Legislative intent that all moneys in the DDS Trust Fund should be used for the support of individuals with developmental disabilities.

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

While originally referred to and heard by both the Assembly Human Services and Privacy and Consumer Protection Committees, this bill was amended substantially on September 8, 2017, and subsequently re-referred to the Assembly Utilities and Energy and Natural Resources Committees.

HOMELESSNESS

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

This bill allows a county to establish a homeless adult and family multidisciplinary team (MDT) in order to facilitate identification, assessment, and linkage of homeless individuals to necessary services, and identifies certain individuals who may be included in an MDT, including police officers, legal counsel, and medical personnel, among others. This bill allows MDT members to

share information with one another if the information is relevant to the identification, reduction, or elimination of homelessness, or the provision of services. This bill allows MDT members to designate qualified individuals to be a member of the team for a particular case, who may receive and disclose relevant information and records, and prohibits the disclosure of information to anyone other than members of the MDT. This bill also subjects all members of the MDT to certain privacy and confidentiality obligations, requires information or records obtained be maintained in a way that ensures privacy and confidentiality rights, requires representatives of domestic violence victim services organizations to obtain the informed consent of an individual prior to disclosing confidential information to another member of an MDT, and applies all civil and criminal penalties to the inappropriate disclosure of information by MDT members. This bill also requires a participating county to develop protocols dictating MDT processes and sharing of information, which includes the items of information or data elements to be shared, the participating agencies, and a description of how the information shared will be used by the MDT, among other elements, and requires those protocols be distributed to participating agencies, be posted on the county's Internet Web site, and be provided to DSS.

AB 824 (Lackey) Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth Grant Program.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

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

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

AB 237 (Gonzalez Fletcher) In-home supportive services.
In the Senate Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would define "payroll period" for providers of in-home supportive services or waiver personal care services to mean two workweeks.

AB 432 (Thurmond) Personal care services.

Vetoed by the Governor.

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

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

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

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

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

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

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

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

Vetoed by the Governor.

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

PUBLIC SERVICES/OTHER HUMAN SERVICES

AB 3 (Bonta) As introduced December 5, 2016: Public defenders: legal counsel: immigration consequences: grants. As amended September 14, 2017: Crimes: repeat offenders and recidivism reduction.

In the Senate Public Safety Committee, 2 year bill.

While originally referred to and heard by both the Assembly Public Safety and Human Services Committees, this bill was amended substantially on September 14, 2017, and no longer relates to human services.

AB 85 (Rodriguez) General assistance: employable veterans.

In the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

This bill would establish the General Assistance “Thank You for Your Service” Act of 2017 and would authorize counties, as of July 1, 2018, to exclude an eligible employable veteran from the prohibition on receipt of general assistance/general relief (GA/GR) for more than three months in any 12-month period. This bill would allow a county board of supervisors to enact an ordinance no later than July 1, 2018, stipulating that eligible employable veterans are not exempt from the three-month-per-year limit on GA/GR.

AB 223 (Eggman) Commercial sexual exploitation of youth: services.

Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

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

AB 322 (Mullin) Public social services for deaf persons.

Held on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

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

AB 763 (Salas) Independent Living Centers: funding.
Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

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

AB 796 (Kalra and Thurmond) Public social services: SSI/SSP.
Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

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

AB 1227 (Bonta and Low) Human Trafficking Prevention Education and Training Act.
Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 558, Statutes of 2017.

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

AB 1485 (Rubio) California Health and Human Services Agency.
In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would require the California Health and Human Services Agency to develop a set of criteria in coordination with stakeholders to be recommended in a report to the Legislature by June 30, 2018, regarding the screening of applicants for, and recipients of, any health care or social service program under the purview of the agency, and would prohibit tools and procedures used for identity

verification and eligibility determination and redetermination from including the collection of information that may jeopardize or infringe upon the privacy of an individual or family. The provisions of this bill would sunset on January 1, 2022.

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

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

ACR 117 (Thurmond) Supervised visitation providers: training.
In the Assembly Human Services Committee.

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

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

While originally referred to both the Assembly Judiciary and Human Services Committees, this bill was amended substantially on September 5, 2017, and subsequently re-referred solely to the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

SB 398 (Monning) Acquired brain trauma.
In the Assembly Human Services Committee, 2 year bill.

This bill would delete the July 1, 2019, sunset date on the traumatic brain injury (TBI) program and extend certain requirement deadlines related to the program to January 1, 2020. This bill would also remove reference to seeking a federal waiver as a part of the current Legislative declaration that the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) shall pursue all available sources of funding to the maximum extent feasible. This bill would grant DOR the authority to require service providers to meet department-set program and operational certification standards as a condition of receiving ongoing funding. This bill would also make the current requirement that DOR solicit applications from organizations interested in and qualified to provide TBI services specific to new organizations and contingent upon the availability of funding.

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGES

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

I am returning Assembly Bill 26 without my signature.

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

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

AB 432 (Thurmond) Personal care services.

I am returning Assembly Bill 432 without my signature.

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

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

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

I am returning Assembly Bill 811 without my signature.

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

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

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

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

I am returning Assembly Bill 1513 without my signature.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to provide labor organizations with the names and telephone numbers of home care aides on the department's Home Care Registry unless a home care aide opts out of allowing this information to be shared.

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

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

I am returning Assembly Bill 1607 without my signature.

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

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