



**First 5 California
Bills of Interest by Level**

Level 1

(Sponsor Bills; 1-5 per year): draft language/amendments; organize partners/meetings; provide testimony/presentations; author outreach for PR support; letters/statements of support

- SB 951** **(Durazo) Unemployment insurance: contribution rates: disability insurance: paid family leave: weekly benefit amount.**
Sponsor **Summary:** This bill revises the formula for the computation of State Disability Insurance (SDI) and Paid Family Leave (PFL) benefits. Specifically, this bill extends the existing wage replacement rates for SDI and PFL (set to sunset on January 1, 2023) to January 1, 2025. The bill also revises the formula for computing SDI benefits (available for 52 weeks) for periods of disability commencing on or after January 1, 2025 and revises the formula for the computation of PFL benefits (available for eight weeks) for periods of disability commencing on or after January 1, 2025.
Status: Signed into law
- SB 976** **(Leyva) Universal Preschool Act.**
Sponsor **Summary:** This bill would rename the Early Education Act as the Universal Preschool Act, and would revise and recast the act to, among other things, require the State Department of Education, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services, to administer the universal preschool program. The bill would require the Superintendent and the Director of Social Services to convene a statewide coordination council to develop, among other things, goals, guidelines, and best practices to be used at a local level to implement a universal preschool program, as provided. The bill would require the Superintendent, in consultation with the Director of Social Services, to develop standards for the implementation of high-quality preschool programs in all settings, including, among other settings, transitional kindergarten.
Status: Stalled in Assembly Education Committee

Level 2

(Priority Bills; 1-5 per year): author outreach for public relations support; letters/statements of support

AB 92

Support

(Reyes) Preschool and childcare and development services: family fees.

Summary: This bill prohibits: (1) family fees for state preschool and child care services from exceeding one percent of a family's monthly income; and (2) family fees from being charged to a family with an adjusted monthly family income below 75 percent of the state median family income. The bill also specifies that state preschool program providers and providers of subsidized child care are not to absorb any reduction in pay for the space or voucher on account of any waiver of or reduction in families fees; and prohibits the number of contracted spaces/vouchers from being reduced on account of any reduction in the collection of family fees. The bill is to become operative on July 1, 2023, upon a state appropriation.

Status: Vetoed

AB 2465

Support

(Bonta, Mia) Pupil instruction: third-grade literacy: literacy grant programs: multilingual and dual language immersion educators: libraries.

Summary: This bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), upon appropriation of the Legislature, to administer the Family and Community Literacy: Supporting Literacy and Biliteracy in Schools, Families, and Communities Grant Program and the California Family Literacy Innovation Project to local educational agencies (LEAs) to support early literacy.

Status: Stalled in Appropriations Committee

AB 2589

Support

(Santiago) Earned Income Tax Credit: one-time child tax credit payment.

Summary: The Personal Income Tax Law, beginning on or after January 1, 2015, in modified conformity with federal income tax laws, allows an earned income tax credit against personal income tax and a payment from the Tax Relief and Refund Account for an allowable credit in excess of tax liability to an eligible individual that is equal to that portion of the earned income tax credit allowed by federal law as determined by the earned income tax credit adjustment factor, as specified. The law provides that the amount of the credit is calculated as a percentage of the eligible individual's earned income and is phased out above a specified amount as income increases and provides alternative calculation factors under specified circumstances. The law requires, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, specified earned income amounts, phaseout amounts, and the amount of disqualified income that would disallow this credit to be recomputed annually in the same manner as the recomputation of income tax brackets, as prescribed. This bill, upon appropriation, for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2022, would revise the alternative calculation factors and phaseout amounts and remove the earned income threshold at which the phaseout ends, thereby increasing the amount of eligible taxpayers.

Status: Stalled in Senate Governance and Finance Committee

SB 854 (Skinner) Hope, Opportunity, Perseverance, and Empowerment (HOPE) for Children Act of 2022.

Support **Summary:** Would, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature or a provision of federal or private funds for these purposes, establish the Hope, Opportunity, Perseverance, and Empowerment (HOPE) Account Program to be administered by the Treasurer to provide eligible children, defined to include minor California residents who are specified dependents or wards under the jurisdiction of juvenile court in foster care for at least 12 months, or who have a parent or guardian who died due to COVID-19 and meet specified family household income limit, with a trust fund account. The bill would require the Treasurer, upon enrollment of an eligible child, to deposit into their trust fund account specified initial deposits and unspecified annual deposits. The bill would authorize a program enrollee to, on and after their 18th or 21st birthday, withdraw or transfer funds from their trust fund account. The bill would require the Treasurer to maintain a publicly available internet website where people may apply for the HOPE Account Program, and program enrollees may have password-protected online access to view information about the trust fund account's growth and value, among other things. The bill would require, no later than March 1, 2023, the California Health and Human Services Agency to submit a report to the Legislature that identifies the authority necessary to expand the HOPE Account Program to include all children born into low-income circumstances and assesses the funding to do that, among other things.

Status: Stalled in Senate Appropriations Committee

Level 3

(Bills expressly consistent with Policy Agenda; 30-50 per year): Bills expressly consistent with Policy Agenda; 30-50 per year: letters/statements of support

AB 4 (Arambula) Medi-Cal: eligibility.

Support **Summary:** Would, effective January 1, 2022, extend eligibility for full scope Medi-Cal benefits to anyone regardless of age, and who is otherwise eligible for those benefits but for their immigration status, pursuant to an eligibility and enrollment plan. The bill would delete the specified provisions regarding individuals who are under 25 years of age or 65 years of age or older and delaying implementation until the director makes the determination described above. The bill would require the eligibility and enrollment plan to ensure that an individual maintains continuity of care with respect to their primary care provider, as prescribed, would provide that an individual is not limited in their ability to select a different health care provider or Medi-Cal managed care health plan, and would require the department to provide monthly updates to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature on the status of the implementation of these provisions

Status: Stalled in Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 32 (Aguiar-Curry) Telehealth.

Support **Summary:** Current law requires a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2021, to specify that coverage is provided for health care services appropriately delivered through telehealth on the same basis and to the same extent as in-person diagnosis, consultation, or treatment.

Current law exempts Medi-Cal managed care plans that contract with the State Department of Health Care Services under the Medi-Cal program from these provisions, and generally exempts county organized health systems that provide services under the Medi-Cal program from Knox-Keene. This bill would delete the above-described references to contracts issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2021, would require these provisions to apply to the plan or insurer's contracted entity, as specified, and would delete the exemption for Medi-Cal managed care plans.

Status: Signed into Law

AB 47
Support

(Reyes) Human services: coordinated immigration support services.

Summary: Would require the State Department of Social Services to establish a grant program that provides grants to qualified nonprofit organizations, as defined, for the provision of multitiered and coordinated immigration support services in California to undocumented and mixed-status families who reside in the state and were separated by the federal government. The bill would require those support services to meet specified criteria.

Status: Stalled in Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 221
Support

(Santiago) Emergency food assistance.

Summary: Would require the State Department of Social Services to provide a food assistance benefit to low-income California residents, regardless of immigration status, by contracting with nonprofit entities, as defined, to issue the food assistance benefit in the form of prepaid cards. The bill would require the department to procure the prepaid cards to administer the food assistance benefit and to ensure the availability of those prepaid cards to nonprofit entities, as specified. The bill would require participating nonprofit entities to maintain specified records. The bill would require the department and nonprofit entities to distribute all of the food assistance benefits by July 1, 2023. The bill would authorize the department to implement, interpret, or make specific these provisions without taking regulatory action.

Status: Stalled in Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 401
Support

(Chiu) Employment Development Department: language translations.

Summary: Current law requires all standard information employee pamphlets provided by the Employment Development Department concerning unemployment and disability insurance programs to be printed in English and the 7 other most commonly used languages among participants in each program. Current law also requires the department to make the pages on its internet website that provide information regarding applying for, and receiving, unemployment insurance benefits available in the 7 languages, other than English, most commonly used by unemployment insurance applicants and claimants. This bill would require all standard information employee pamphlets provided by the department concerning unemployment and disability insurance programs to be printed in English and any written language that is or becomes a Medi-Cal threshold language in any county, as provided.

Status: Stalled in Senate Committee on Labor, Public Employment and Retirement

- AB 470**
Support **(Carrillo) Medi-Cal: eligibility.**
Summary: Would prohibit the use of resources, including property or other assets, to determine eligibility under the Medi-Cal program to the extent permitted by federal law, and would require the department to seek federal authority to disregard all resources as authorized by the flexibilities provided pursuant to federal law. The bill would authorize the State Department of Health Care Services to implement this prohibition by various means, including provider bulletins, without taking regulatory authority. By January 1, 2023, the bill would require the department to adopt, amend, or repeal regulations on the prohibition, and to update its notices and forms to delete any reference to limitations on resources or assets.
Status: Stalled in Senate Appropriations Committee
- AB 1041**
Support **(Wicks) Employment: leave.**
Summary: Would expand the population that an employee can take leave to care for to include a designated person. The bill would define "designated person" to mean a person identified by the employee at the time the employee requests family care and medical leave. The bill would authorize an employer to limit designation of a person, as prescribed.
Status: Signed into Law
- AB 1649**
Support **(Quirk-Silva) Childcare services: alternative payment programs.**
Summary: Current law requires the State Department of Social Services to contract with local contracting agencies for alternative payment programs for childcare services to be provided throughout the state. Existing law requires the alternative payment program to reimburse childcare providers based upon specified criteria, including the actual days and hours of attendance for those families with variable schedules. This bill, instead, would require the alternative payment program to reimburse childcare providers based upon the maximum certified hours of care. The bill would also include intent language relating to equitable access to childcare for working families and a set reimbursement for all licensed and exempt providers who accept subsidized childcare vouchers.
Status: Stalled in Assembly Appropriations Committee
- AB 1728**
Support **(Rivas, Robert) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work: exemptions.**
Summary: This bill expands the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) welfare-to-work (WTW) exemptions to recipients who are pregnant, and for parents and other relatives who have primary responsibility for providing care to children from up to six months to up to two years of age and under, as specified. This bill also requires a county to provide a notice of action (NOA) regarding an individual's exemption and how they may voluntarily participate in WTW activities, as specified, and further requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to issue implementation instructions to counties by April 1, 2023, as specified.
Status: Stalled in Senate Appropriations Committee

- AB 1973 (McCarty) Education finance: base grants: adjustments: kindergarten: minimum schoolday.**
Support Summary: Current law establishes a public school financing system that requires state funding for county superintendents of schools, school districts, and charter schools to be calculated pursuant to a local control funding formula, as specified. Current law requires funding pursuant to the local control funding formula to include, in addition to a grade span adjusted base grant, a 10.4% adjustment to the kindergarten and grades 1 to 3, inclusive, base grant for school districts that maintain, or make progress toward, as specified, an average class enrollment of not more than 24 pupils for each schoolsite. This bill would require, commencing with the 2025–26 school year, as a condition of receiving that additional adjustment, a school district or charter school that offers a kindergarten program, to provide, at each schoolsite that offers a kindergarten program, a minimum schoolday for the kindergarten day that is at least equivalent to the minimum schoolday provided for grades 1 to 3, inclusive.
Status: Vetoed
- AB 2153 (Arambula) California Fruit and Vegetable Supplemental Benefits Expansion Program.**
Support Summary: Would establish the California Fruit and Vegetable Supplemental Benefits Expansion Program and create the California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Expansion Fund in the State Treasury. The program would include a process and guidelines for the State Department of Social Services to, upon the deposit of sufficient moneys in the fund, enroll authorized retailers to enable those authorized retailers to provide supplemental benefits to CalFresh recipients who purchase California-grown fresh fruits and vegetables. The bill would authorize the department to initially allocate from any appropriation made for the purposes of the program, \$140,000,000 for large authorized retailers that are not direct farm-to-consumer authorized retailers to provide supplemental benefits, \$40,000,000 for small authorized retailers that are not direct farm-to-consumer authorized retailers to provide supplemental benefits, and \$60,000,000 for direct farm-to-consumer authorized retailers to provide supplemental benefits.
Status: Stalled in Assembly Appropriations Committee
- AB 2300 (Kalra) CalWORKs and CalFresh: work requirements.**
Support Summary: – This bill adds paid family leave (PFL) benefits to those benefits included as disability-based unearned income for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program and exempts a recipient receiving PFL from CalWORKs aid time limits. This bill also prohibits sanctions from being applied for failure or refusal to comply with CalWORKs work requirements if the anticipated work hours are unpredictable or certain labor law protections were violated, requires that good cause exists for a CalFresh recipient who has voluntarily quit a job or reduced work hours based on the same circumstances that prohibit a CalWORKs recipient from being sanctioned, and permits a person to requalify for CalWORKs benefits by attending school on a full-time basis.
Status: Signed into Law

- AB 2402** (Rubio, Blanca) **Medi-Cal: continuous eligibility.**
Support **Summary:** This bill requires the Department of Health Care Services to seek federal authority to allow children to remain on Medi-Cal, the Medi-Cal Access Infants Program, and the County Children’s Health Initiative Programs until age five, without the need for a redetermination of eligibility, except in specified circumstances.
Status: Enacted as part of the 2022-23 State Budget Act
- AB 2466** (Cervantes) **Foster children.**
Support **Summary:** This bill prohibits a placing agency, when placing a foster child, from declining to place a child with a resource family because of a resource family’s parent’s actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; and removes the term “hard to place children” from certain statutes.
Status: Signed into Law
- AB 2806** (Rubio, Blanca) **Childcare and developmental services: preschool: expulsion and suspension: mental health services: reimbursement rates.**
Support **Summary:** This bill expands the existing prohibition on expelling children from state preschool programs to also prohibit the suspension of children enrolled in state preschool programs, and extends the prohibition on suspension and expulsion of children to include those enrolled in child care programs, with exception.
Status: Signed into Law
- AB 2832** (Rivas, R) **Whole Child Community Equity.**
Summary: This bill establishes the End Racial and Economic Inequities in Childcare in California Initiative, which requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) and Department of Education (CDE) to develop the Whole Child Equity Framework and Whole Child Community Equity Screening Tool. The bill also requires DSS and CDE to convene a workgroup, which will include First 5 California, to receive input for the development of the Framework, the Equity Tool, and recommended uses of the Equity Tool for early childhood investments and whole child resources to address racial and economic inequities for California’s youngest children.
Status: Signed into Law
- SB 17** (Pan) **Office of Racial Equity.**
Support **Summary:** Would, until January 1, 2029, would establish in state government an Office of Racial Equity, an independent public entity not affiliated with an agency or department, governed by a Racial Equity Advisory and Accountability Council. The bill would authorize the council to hire an executive director to organize, administer, and manage the operations of the office. The bill would task the office with coordinating, analyzing, developing, evaluating, and recommending strategies for advancing racial equity across state agencies, departments, and the office of the Governor. The bill would require the office, in consultation with state agencies, departments, and public stakeholders, as appropriate, to develop a statewide Racial Equity Framework that includes a strategic plan with policy and inclusive practice recommendations, guidelines, goals, and benchmarks to reduce racial inequities, promote racial equity, and address individual, institutional, and structural racism.
Status: Stalled on the Assembly Floor

- SB 56**
Support **(Durazo) Medi-Cal: eligibility.**
Summary: Current law provides that Medi-Cal benefits for individuals who are 65 years of age or older, and who do not have satisfactory immigration statuses or are unable to establish satisfactory immigration statuses, will be prioritized in the Budget Act for the upcoming fiscal year if the Department of Finance projects a positive ending balance in the Special Fund for Economic Uncertainties for the upcoming fiscal year and each of the ensuing 3 fiscal years that exceeds the cost of providing those individuals with full-scope Medi-Cal benefits. This bill would, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, and effective July 1, 2022, extend eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits to individuals who are 60 years of age or older, and who are otherwise eligible for those benefits but for their immigration status.
Status: Stalled in Health Committee
- SB 70**
Support **(Rubio) Elementary education: kindergarten.**
Summary: Would, beginning with the 2022–23 school year, require a child to have completed one year of kindergarten before that child may be admitted to the first grade at a public elementary school, except for a child who has been lawfully admitted to a public school kindergarten or a private school kindergarten in California, but has not yet completed one school year, and is judged to be ready for first-grade work, as specified, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.
Status: Vetoed
- SB 316**
Support **(Eggman) Medi-Cal: federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics.**
Summary: Current law provides that FQHC and RHC services are to be reimbursed, to the extent that federal financial participation is obtained, to providers on a per-visit basis. "Visit" is defined as a face-to-face encounter between a patient of an FQHC or RHC and specified health care professionals, including a physician and marriage and family therapist. Under existing law, "physician," for these purposes, includes, but is not limited to, a physician and surgeon, an osteopath, and a podiatrist. This bill would authorize reimbursement for a maximum of 2 visits taking place on the same day at a single location if after the first visit the patient suffers illness or injury requiring additional diagnosis or treatment, or if the patient has a medical visit and a mental health visit or a dental visit, as defined. The bill would authorize an FQHC or RHC that currently includes the cost of a medical visit and a mental health visit that take place on the same day at a single location as a single visit for purposes of establishing the FQHC's or RHC's rate to apply for an adjustment to its per-visit rate, and after the department has approved that rate adjustment, to bill a medical visit and a mental health visit that take place on the same day at a single location as separate visits, in accordance with the bill.
Status: Stalled on the Assembly Floor
- SB 464**
Support **(Hurtado) California Food Assistance Program: eligibility and benefits.**
Summary: Current law requires the State Department of Social Services to establish a food assistance program, known as the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP), to provide assistance to a noncitizen of the United States if the person's immigration status meets the eligibility criteria of SNAP in effect on August 21, 1996, but the person is not eligible for SNAP benefits solely due to their immigration status, as specified.

Current law also makes eligible for the program an applicant who is otherwise eligible for the program, but who entered the United States on or after August 22, 1996, if the applicant is sponsored and the applicant meets one of a list of criteria, including that the applicant, after entry into the United States, is a victim of the sponsor or the spouse of the sponsor if the spouse is living with the sponsor. bill instead would require the department to use state funds appropriated for CFAP to provide nutritional benefits to households that are ineligible for CalFresh benefits solely due to their immigration status. The bill would eliminate the distinctions based on when the noncitizen applicant entered the country and would eliminate the sponsorship and other listed criteria requirements for eligibility on a noncitizen who entered the country on or after August 22, 1996.

Status: Stalled in Assembly Human Services Committee

SB 860 (Rubio) Personal Income Tax Law: Young Child Tax Credit.

Support Summary: This bill allows qualified taxpayers who earned no income for the taxable year to receive the Young Child Tax Credit (YCTC).

Status: Enacted as part of the 2022-23 State Budget Act

SB 952 (Limón) Pupil instruction: dual language programs: Expanding Culture and Language Learning in Schools Grant Program.

Support Summary: Would, subject to an appropriation, establish the Expanding Culture and Language Learning in Schools Grant Program with the goal of growing capacity for high-quality dual language learning in preschools, transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, as provided. The bill would require the State Department of Education, commencing October 1, 2023, to award a minimum of 20 one-time grants of up to \$750,000 per grant to school districts, county offices of education, certain charter schools, and specified preschool programs, as provided. The bill would require the department to, among other things, determine grant award selection criteria, review applications, award grants, identify and determine how data will be collected and shared with the public, and meet quarterly with grantees to share practices and resources and resolve implementation issues.

Status: Stalled in Assembly Appropriations Committee

SB 1058 (Durazo) Disability insurance: paid family leave: applicant data.

Support Summary: This bill requires the Employment Development Department (EDD) to collect demographic data, including race and ethnicity data, for individuals who claim disability benefits under the State Disability Insurance (SDI) and Paid Family Leave (PFL) programs.

Status: Signed into Law

SB 1083 (Skinner) CalWORKs: pregnancy and homeless assistance.

Support Summary: This bill makes various changes to the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) homeless assistance (HA) program, including extending CalWORKs HA to families facing eviction, expanding the definition of perpetrator of domestic violence for the purposes of HA to include a roommate, and allowing a family who is receiving CalWORKs HA benefits to remain eligible for HA following termination of CalWORKs participation due income ineligibility.

Status: Signed into Law