

**California Department of Social Services  
2018 Proposed Trailer Bill**

**Title: Obsolete Code and Legislative Reports**

**Section 8359 of the Education Code is amended to read:**

*(Topic: Data about child care usage and demand in each of the 3 stages)*

(a) County welfare departments and alternative payment programs shall provide to the State Department of Education or the State Department of Social Services, whichever is appropriate, and the local planning council, on a monthly basis, data about child care usage and demand in each of the three stages. ~~The State Department of Education and the State Department of Social Services shall forward this data quarterly to the Department of Finance and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for fiscal planning.~~

(b) By January 10 of each year, the Department of Finance shall present to the respective legislative budget committees an estimate of the cost of funding the expected demand for child care as described in subdivision (a) of Section 8351 and Sections 8353 and 8354.

**Section 11166 of the Penal Code is amended to read:**

*(Topic: Automated Child Abuse Reports)*

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (d), and in Section 11166.05, a mandated reporter shall make a report to an agency specified in Section 11165.9 whenever the mandated reporter, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. The mandated reporter shall make an initial report by telephone to the agency immediately or as soon as is practicably possible, and shall prepare and send, fax, or electronically transmit a written followup report within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident. The mandated reporter may include with the report any nonprivileged documentary evidence the mandated reporter possesses relating to the incident.

(1) For purposes of this article, “reasonable suspicion” means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing, when appropriate, on his or her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect. “Reasonable suspicion” does not require certainty that child abuse or neglect has

occurred nor does it require a specific medical indication of child abuse or neglect; any “reasonable suspicion” is sufficient. For purposes of this article, the pregnancy of a minor does not, in and of itself, constitute a basis for a reasonable suspicion of sexual abuse.

(2) The agency shall be notified and a report shall be prepared and sent, faxed, or electronically transmitted even if the child has expired, regardless of whether or not the possible abuse was a factor contributing to the death, and even if suspected child abuse was discovered during an autopsy.

(3) A report made by a mandated reporter pursuant to this section shall be known as a mandated report.

(b) If, after reasonable efforts, a mandated reporter is unable to submit an initial report by telephone, he or she shall immediately or as soon as is practicably possible, by fax or electronic transmission, make a one-time automated written report on the form prescribed by the Department of Justice, and shall also be available to respond to a telephone followup call by the agency with which he or she filed the report. A mandated reporter who files a one-time automated written report because he or she was unable to submit an initial report by telephone is not required to submit a written followup report.

(1) The one-time automated written report form prescribed by the Department of Justice shall be clearly identifiable so that it is not mistaken for a standard written followup report. In addition, the automated one-time report shall contain a section that allows the mandated reporter to state the reason the initial telephone call was not able to be completed. The reason for the submission of the one-time automated written report in lieu of the procedure prescribed in subdivision (a) shall be captured in the Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS). The department shall work with stakeholders to modify reporting forms and the CWS/CMS as is necessary to accommodate the changes enacted by these provisions.

(2) This subdivision shall not become operative until the CWS/CMS is updated to capture the information prescribed in this subdivision.

(3) This subdivision shall become inoperative three years after this subdivision becomes operative or on January 1, 2009, whichever occurs first.

~~(4) On the inoperative date of these provisions, a report shall be submitted to the counties and the Legislature by the State Department of Social Services that reflects the data~~

~~collected from automated one-time reports indicating the reasons stated as to why the automated one-time report was filed in lieu of the initial telephone report.~~

(45) Nothing in this section shall supersede the requirement that a mandated reporter first attempt to make a report via telephone, or that agencies specified in Section 11165.9 accept reports from mandated reporters and other persons as required.

(c) A mandated reporter who fails to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect as required by this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months confinement in a county jail or by a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by both that imprisonment and fine. If a mandated reporter intentionally conceals his or her failure to report an incident known by the mandated reporter to be abuse or severe neglect under this section, the failure to report is a continuing offense until an agency specified in Section 11165.9 discovers the offense.

(d) (1) A clergy member who acquires knowledge or a reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect during a penitential communication is not subject to subdivision (a). For the purposes of this subdivision, “penitential communication” means a communication, intended to be in confidence, including, but not limited to, a sacramental confession, made to a clergy member who, in the course of the discipline or practice of his or her church, denomination, or organization, is authorized or accustomed to hear those communications, and under the discipline, tenets, customs, or practices of his or her church, denomination, or organization, has a duty to keep those communications secret.

(2) Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to modify or limit a clergy member’s duty to report known or suspected child abuse or neglect when the clergy member is acting in some other capacity that would otherwise make the clergy member a mandated reporter.

(3) (A) On or before January 1, 2004, a clergy member or any custodian of records for the clergy member may report to an agency specified in Section 11165.9 that the clergy member or any custodian of records for the clergy member, prior to January 1, 1997, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, other than during a penitential communication, acquired knowledge or had a reasonable suspicion that a child had been the victim of sexual abuse and that the clergy member or any custodian of records for the clergy member did not previously report the abuse to an agency specified in Section 11165.9. The provisions of Section 11172 shall apply to all reports made pursuant to this paragraph.

(B) This paragraph shall apply even if the victim of the known or suspected abuse has reached the age of majority by the time the required report is made.

(C) The local law enforcement agency shall have jurisdiction to investigate any report of child abuse made pursuant to this paragraph even if the report is made after the victim has reached the age of majority.

(e) (1) A commercial film, photographic print, or image processor who has knowledge of or observes, within the scope of his or her professional capacity or employment, any film, photograph, videotape, negative, slide, or any representation of information, data, or an image, including, but not limited to, any film, filmstrip, photograph, negative, slide, photocopy, videotape, video laser disc, computer hardware, computer software, computer floppy disk, data storage medium, CD-ROM, computer-generated equipment, or computer-generated image depicting a child under 16 years of age engaged in an act of sexual conduct, shall, immediately or as soon as practicably possible, telephonically report the instance of suspected abuse to the law enforcement agency located in the county in which the images are seen. Within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident, the reporter shall prepare and send, fax, or electronically transmit a written followup report of the incident with a copy of the image or material attached.

(2) A commercial computer technician who has knowledge of or observes, within the scope of his or her professional capacity or employment, any representation of information, data, or an image, including, but not limited to, any computer hardware, computer software, computer file, computer floppy disk, data storage medium, CD-ROM, computer-generated equipment, or computer-generated image that is retrievable in perceivable form and that is intentionally saved, transmitted, or organized on an electronic medium, depicting a child under 16 years of age engaged in an act of sexual conduct, shall immediately, or as soon as practicably possible, telephonically report the instance of suspected abuse to the law enforcement agency located in the county in which the images or materials are seen. As soon as practicably possible after receiving the information concerning the incident, the reporter shall prepare and send, fax, or electronically transmit a written followup report of the incident with a brief description of the images or materials.

(3) For purposes of this article, “commercial computer technician” includes an employee designated by an employer to receive reports pursuant to an established reporting process authorized by subparagraph (B) of paragraph (43) of subdivision (a) of Section 11165.7.

(4) As used in this subdivision, “electronic medium” includes, but is not limited to, a recording, CD-ROM, magnetic disk memory, magnetic tape memory, CD, DVD, thumbdrive, or any other computer hardware or media.

(5) As used in this subdivision, “sexual conduct” means any of the following:

(A) Sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital, or oral-anal, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex or between humans and animals.

(B) Penetration of the vagina or rectum by any object.

(C) Masturbation for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer.

(D) Sadoomasochistic abuse for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer.

(E) Exhibition of the genitals, pubic, or rectal areas of a person for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer.

(f) Any mandated reporter who knows or reasonably suspects that the home or institution in which a child resides is unsuitable for the child because of abuse or neglect of the child shall bring the condition to the attention of the agency to which, and at the same time as, he or she makes a report of the abuse or neglect pursuant to subdivision (a).

(g) Any other person who has knowledge of or observes a child whom he or she knows or reasonably suspects has been a victim of child abuse or neglect may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect to an agency specified in Section 11165.9. For purposes of this section, “any other person” includes a mandated reporter who acts in his or her private capacity and not in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment.

(h) When two or more persons, who are required to report, jointly have knowledge of a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, and when there is agreement among them, the telephone report may be made by a member of the team selected by mutual agreement and a single report may be made and signed by the selected member of the reporting team. Any member who has knowledge that the member designated to report has failed to do so shall thereafter make the report.

(i) (1) The reporting duties under this section are individual, and no supervisor or administrator may impede or inhibit the reporting duties, and no person making a report shall be subject to any sanction for making the report. However, internal procedures to facilitate reporting and apprise supervisors and administrators of reports may be established provided that they are not inconsistent with this article. An internal policy shall not direct an employee to allow his or her supervisor to file or process a mandated report under any circumstances.

(2) The internal procedures shall not require any employee required to make reports pursuant to this article to disclose his or her identity to the employer.

(3) Reporting the information regarding a case of possible child abuse or neglect to an employer, supervisor, school principal, school counselor, coworker, or other person shall not be a substitute for making a mandated report to an agency specified in Section 11165.9.

(j) (1) A county probation or welfare department shall immediately, or as soon as practicably possible, report by telephone, fax, or electronic transmission to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the case, to the agency given the responsibility for investigation of cases under Section 300 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and to the district attorney's office every known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, as defined in Section 11165.6, except acts or omissions coming within subdivision (b) of Section 11165.2, or reports made pursuant to Section 11165.13 based on risk to a child that relates solely to the inability of the parent to provide the child with regular care due to the parent's substance abuse, which shall be reported only to the county welfare or probation department. A county probation or welfare department also shall send, fax, or electronically transmit a written report thereof within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident to any agency to which it makes a telephone report under this subdivision.

(2) A county probation or welfare department shall immediately, and in no case in more than 24 hours, report to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the case after receiving information that a child or youth who is receiving child welfare services has been identified as the victim of commercial sexual exploitation, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 11165.1.

(3) When a child or youth who is receiving child welfare services and who is reasonably believed to be the victim of, or is at risk of being the victim of, commercial sexual exploitation, as defined in Section 11165.1, is missing or has been abducted, the county probation or welfare department shall immediately, or in no case later than 24 hours from receipt of the information, report the

incident to the appropriate law enforcement authority for entry into the National Crime Information Center database of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

(k) A law enforcement agency shall immediately, or as soon as practicably possible, report by telephone, fax, or electronic transmission to the agency given responsibility for investigation of cases under Section 300 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and to the district attorney's office every known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect reported to it, except acts or omissions coming within subdivision (b) of Section 11165.2, which shall be reported only to the county welfare or probation department. A law enforcement agency shall report to the county welfare or probation department every known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect reported to it which is alleged to have occurred as a result of the action of a person responsible for the child's welfare, or as the result of the failure of a person responsible for the child's welfare to adequately protect the minor from abuse when the person responsible for the child's welfare knew or reasonably should have known that the minor was in danger of abuse. A law enforcement agency also shall send, fax, or electronically transmit a written report thereof within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident to any agency to which it makes a telephone report under this subdivision.

**Section 10507 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is repealed.**

*(Topic: Cost of Doing Business for County Administration)*

~~(a) The department shall estimate the costs for county administration of human services programs using county-specific cost factors in the programs' budgeting methodology.~~

~~(b) County-specific cost factors shall be estimated using a county survey process that requires county certification of reasonable costs, and review by the department to determine that those costs are reasonable and necessary to meet program requirements and objectives.~~

~~(c) No later than November 1, 2006, the department, in consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association, shall develop the survey instrument and process to incorporate actual reasonable county cost factors to administer human services programs. The survey shall include, but shall not be limited to, salaries and benefits, operating support, electronic data processing, staff development, and other costs reasonable and~~

~~necessary to meet program requirements and objectives. The process shall include an assessment of how state requirements and county operational practices affect the costs of county administration of human services programs.~~

~~(d) Commencing with the May Revision of the 2007–08 budget, and annually thereafter, the department shall identify in its budget documents the estimates developed pursuant to this section and the difference between these estimates and the proposed funding levels.~~

**Sections 10790 and 10791 of the Welfare and Institutions Code are repealed.**

*(Topic: Cost Effectiveness of Consolidated Public Assistance Eligibility Determination Demonstration Project)*

~~**10790. (a) The director, in consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association and at least one advocate for welfare recipients, shall establish, within the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3), and CalFresh (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 18900) of Part 6), the Consolidated Public Assistance Eligibility Determination Demonstration Project.**~~

~~**(b) (1) The director shall, by formal order, waive the enforcement of those regulations and standards necessary to implement the project with federal approval, in order to implement the demonstration project.**~~

~~**(2) The order establishing the waiver authorized by paragraph (1) shall meet all of the following requirements:**~~

~~**(A) It shall provide alternative methods and procedures of eligibility administration.**~~

~~**(B) It shall not conflict with the basic purposes or coverage provided by law.**~~

~~**(C) The director shall determine, based on estimates, the impact of the proposed changes on AFDC and CalFresh recipients. The order shall be implemented only if no more than 5 percent of the recipients are expected to experience a net benefit reduction.**~~

~~**(D) Applications for, and restorations of, aid shall be processed in the shorter of the time periods required for the AFDC and CalFresh programs, when differences exist between the two programs.**~~

~~**(E) It shall not be general in scope and shall apply only to the project authorized by this section.**~~



~~(3) The order establishing the waiver authorized by paragraph (1) shall take effect only if the appropriate federal agencies have agreed to approve the demonstration project and to waive those federal requirements that are necessary for waiver under the project.~~

~~(c) Applicants and recipients under this chapter shall be entitled to the same rights and fair hearings and appeals as those to which they would otherwise be entitled under the AFDC program (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3) and CalFresh (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 18900) of Part 6).~~

~~(d) The director shall include in the request for any waivers necessary for the implementation of this demonstration project the declaration that if any of the specific elements, pursuant to Section 10791, are deemed unwaivable or are not granted, the other elements may be considered independently and waived as permitted under federal law.~~

~~(e) The director may exclude from the request for waivers any specific element, pursuant to subparagraph (D) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of this section or Section 10791, determined to be not cost effective due to significant General Fund costs.~~

~~10791. The demonstration program provided for in Section 10790 shall, at a minimum, include the following elements:~~

~~(a) Uniform 30 percent disregard from gross earned income and waiver of the 100-hour limit on employment for AFDC-Unemployed recipient eligibility.~~

~~(b) Uniform definition of allowable child care disregards for full or part-time care.~~

~~(c) It shall not be presumed that any transfer of property made within three months prior to the time the application was made for purposes of becoming eligible for CalFresh.~~

~~(d) Exemption of personal loans as property where a reasonable repayment plan is in place. A reasonable repayment plan shall be defined as a statement from the lender specifying that the money shall be paid back at a future point in time when the individual is able to do so.~~

~~(e) Use of standard shelter allowances based on local housing prices without verification in lieu of verified shelter costs.~~

~~(f) Exclusion from income financial aid and work study payments that are computed based on need consistent with Section 11008.10.~~

~~(g) Application of good cause determinations related to late submission of monthly income reports for CalFresh recipients who also receive AFDC benefits.~~

~~(h) Qualification as categorically eligible for CalFresh any individual who is apparently eligible for or has been granted AFDC benefits.~~

~~(i) Disregarding as income, for CalFresh, the first fifty dollars (\$50) of child support received, as currently provided for under the AFDC program, to the extent federal funding is available.~~

~~(j) Uniform treatment of room and board income, consistent with AFDC program regulations.~~

~~(k) Requirement for signatures on monthly income reports, consistent with AFDC program regulations.~~

~~(l) Standard deduction for expenses related to self-employment income.~~

~~(m) Both programs shall exempt one motor vehicle from property to be considered in determining eligibility.~~

~~(n) Both programs shall compute the value of any motor vehicle not exempt from consideration in determining eligibility by subtracting the amount of encumbrances from the fair market value. If an applicant, a recipient, or a county does not agree with the value of a vehicle arrived at through this methodology, the applicant or recipient shall be entitled to the use of either of the following methods for evaluating the motor vehicle:~~

~~(1) Submit three appraisals. An appraisal may be made under this paragraph by a car dealer, insurance adjuster, or a personal property appraiser. The average of the three independent appraisals shall be used by the county in evaluating the motor vehicle.~~

~~(2) Obtain an appraisal from a county-appointed appraiser.~~

~~(o) Adoption of an exclusion from income for both the AFDC and CalFresh programs of one hundred dollars (\$100) per quarter, in lieu of the AFDC nonrecurring gift exclusion and the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program irregular or infrequent income exclusion.~~

~~(p) Standardization of county retention percentages for collection of erroneous payments.~~

~~(q) Upon receipt of federal approval of this demonstration project the department, in consultation with the Department of Finance, may delay implementation of any elements determined to be not cost effective until funds are appropriated by the Legislature.~~

~~10791. The demonstration program provided for in Section 10790 shall, at a minimum, include the following elements:~~

~~(a) Uniform 30 percent disregard from gross earned income and waiver of the 100-hour limit on employment for AFDC-Unemployed recipient eligibility.~~

~~(b) Uniform definition of allowable child care disregards for full- or part-time care.~~

~~(c) It shall not be presumed that any transfer of property made within three months prior to the time the application was made for purposes of becoming eligible for CalFresh.~~

~~(d) Exemption of personal loans as property where a reasonable repayment plan is in place. A reasonable repayment plan shall be defined as a statement from the lender specifying that the money shall be paid back at a future point in time when the individual is able to do so.~~

~~(e) Use of standard shelter allowances based on local housing prices without verification in lieu of verified shelter costs.~~

~~(f) Exclusion from income financial aid and work study payments that are computed based on need consistent with Section 11008.10.~~

~~(g) Application of good cause determinations related to late submission of monthly income reports for CalFresh recipients who also receive AFDC benefits.~~

~~(h) Qualification as categorically eligible for CalFresh any individual who is apparently eligible for or has been granted AFDC benefits.~~

~~(i) Disregarding as income, for CalFresh, the first fifty dollars (\$50) of child support received, as currently provided for under the AFDC program, to the extent federal funding is available.~~

~~(j) Uniform treatment of room and board income, consistent with AFDC program regulations.~~

~~(k) Requirement for signatures on monthly income reports, consistent with AFDC program regulations.~~

- ~~(l) Standard deduction for expenses related to self-employment income.~~
- ~~(m) Both programs shall exempt one motor vehicle from property to be considered in determining eligibility.~~
- ~~(n) Both programs shall compute the value of any motor vehicle not exempt from consideration in determining eligibility by subtracting the amount of encumbrances from the fair market value. If an applicant, a recipient, or a county does not agree with the value of a vehicle arrived at through this methodology, the applicant or recipient shall be entitled to the use of either of the following methods for evaluating the motor vehicle:~~
- ~~(1) Submit three appraisals. An appraisal may be made under this paragraph by a car dealer, insurance adjuster, or a personal property appraiser. The average of the three independent appraisals shall be used by the county in evaluating the motor vehicle.~~
- ~~(2) Obtain an appraisal from a county-appointed appraiser.~~
- ~~(o) Adoption of an exclusion from income for both the AFDC and CalFresh programs of one hundred dollars (\$100) per quarter, in lieu of the AFDC nonrecurring gift exclusion and the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program irregular or infrequent income exclusion.~~
- ~~(p) Standardization of county retention percentages for collection of erroneous payments.~~
- ~~(q) Upon receipt of federal approval of this demonstration project the department, in consultation with the Department of Finance, may delay implementation of any elements determined to be not cost effective until funds are appropriated by the Legislature.~~

**Section 10822 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is repealed.**

*(Topic: Statewide Automated Welfare System Annual Report)*

~~**10822.** The department shall provide an annual report to the Legislature on March 1, 1985, and March 1 of each year thereafter, on the progress in implementing the system. Such a report shall contain at least the following information:~~

- ~~(a) The functions assumed by the system.~~
- ~~(b) The effectiveness of the system as measured by dollar error rates.~~
- ~~(c) The costs and savings of the system.~~

- ~~(d) The fiscal impact of the system on the administration of such public assistance programs.~~
- ~~(e) The impact of the system on fraud detection, and reduction in duplicate payments.~~
- ~~(f) The responsiveness of the system in meeting recipient's needs.~~
- ~~(g) Recommendations for further legislative action.~~
- ~~(h) Any revisions in the long-range plan that will affect the objectives to be accomplished in the following year.~~

Section 11265.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is repealed.

*(Topic: Evaluations by Pilot Counties of AFDC and CalFresh Programs Eligibility Reporting System)*

~~(a) (1) The department may, subject to the requirements of federal regulations and Section 18204, conduct three pilot projects, to be located in the Counties of Los Angeles, Merced, and Santa Clara, upon approval of the department and the participating counties. The pilot projects shall test the reporting systems described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (4).~~

~~(2) (A) The pilot project conducted in Los Angeles County shall test one or both reporting systems described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (4). The pilot project population for each test shall be limited to 10,000 cases.~~

~~(B) The pilot projects in the other counties shall test one of the reporting systems described in subparagraph (A) or (C) of paragraph (4) and shall be limited to 2,000 cases per project.~~

~~(3) (A) The pilot projects shall be designed and conducted according to standard scientific principles, and shall be in effect for a period of 24 months.~~

~~(B) The projects may be extended an additional year upon the approval of the department.~~

~~(C) The projects shall be designed to compare the monthly reporting system with alternatives described in paragraph (4) as to all of the following phenomena:~~

~~(i) Administrative savings resulting from reduced worker time spent in reviewing monthly reports.~~

~~(ii) The amount of cash assistance paid to families.~~

~~(iii) The rate of administrative errors in cases and payments.~~

~~(iv) The incidence of underpayments and overpayments and the costs to recipients and the administering agencies of making corrective payments and collecting overpayments.~~

~~(v) Rates at which recipients lose eligibility for brief periods due to failure to submit a monthly report but file new applications for aid and thereafter are returned to eligible status.~~

~~(vi) Cumulative benefits and costs to each level of government and to aid recipients resulting from each reporting system.~~

~~(vii) The incidence of, and ability to, prosecute fraud.~~

~~(viii) Ease of use by clients.~~

~~(ix) Case errors and potential sanction costs associated with those errors.~~

~~(4) The pilot projects shall adopt reporting systems providing for one or more of the following:~~

~~(A) A reporting system that requires families with no income or whose only income is comprised of old age, survivors, or disability insurance benefits administered pursuant to Subchapter 2 (commencing with Section 401) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code, and with no recent work history to report changes in circumstances that affect eligibility and grant amount as changes occur. These changes shall be reported directly to the county welfare department in person, in writing, or by telephone. In all cases in which monthly reporting is not required, a form advising recipients of what changes must be reported, and how they may be reported shall be provided to recipients of aid along with benefit payments each month.~~

~~(B) A reporting system that permits families with no income or whose only income is comprised of old age, survivors, or disability insurance benefits administered pursuant to Subchapter 2 (commencing with Section 401) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code, and with no changes in eligibility criteria, to report electronically monthly, using either an audio response or the CalFresh online issuance and recording system, or a combination of both. Adequate instruction and training shall be provided to county welfare department staff and to recipients who choose to use this system prior to its implementation.~~

~~(C) A reporting system that requires all families to report changes in circumstances that affect eligibility and grant amount as changes occur. The changes shall be reported directly~~

~~to the county welfare department in person, in writing, or by telephone. In all cases in which monthly reporting is not required, a form advising recipients of what changes must be reported, and how they may be reported, shall be provided to recipients of aid along with benefit payments each month.~~

~~(b) (1) The participating counties shall be responsible for preparing federal demonstration project proposals, to be submitted by the department, upon the department's review and approval of the proposals, to the federal agency on the counties' behalf. The development, operation, and evaluation of the pilot projects shall not result in an increase in the state allocation of county administrative funds.~~

~~(1.5) Each pilot county shall prepare and submit quarterly reports, annual reports, and a final report to the department.~~

~~(2) Each quarterly report shall be submitted no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the quarter.~~

~~(3) Each annual report shall be submitted no later than 45 days after the end of the year.~~

~~(4) (A) Each pilot county shall submit a final report not later than 90 days following completion of the pilot projects required by this section.~~

~~(B) (i) As part of the final report, the pilot counties shall prepare and submit evaluations of the pilot projects to the department.~~

~~(ii) Each evaluation shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis of the factors set forth in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) compared to each other and the current reporting systems in both the AFDC program and CalFresh. The final evaluations shall be prepared by an independent consultant or consultants contracted with for that purpose prior to the commencement of the projects.~~

~~(c) The department may terminate any or all of the pilot projects implemented pursuant to this section after a period of six months of operation if one or more of the pilot counties submits data to the department, or information is otherwise received, indicating that the pilot project or projects are not costeffective or adversely impact recipients or county or state operations based on the factors set forth in subparagraph (C) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a).~~

~~(d) The pilot projects shall be implemented only upon receipt of the appropriate federal waivers.~~

**Section 11334.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is repealed.**

*(Topic: Cal-Learn Program Update)*

~~(a) The department shall provide to the budget committees of the Legislature, no later than February 1, 2013, and, notwithstanding Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, on February 1 annually thereafter, a report that includes all of the following information:~~

~~(1) The number of counties implementing a Cal-Learn Program.~~

~~(2) The number of recipients being served in each county with intensive case management services.~~

~~(3) Outcomes for recipients, including graduation rates and repeat pregnancies.~~

~~(b) The report described in subdivision (a) shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.~~

**Section 11465.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is repealed.**

*(Topic: Foster Care Placements with AFDC Recipients)*

~~**11465.5.** (a) The department shall conduct five-year pilot projects in Alameda County, Contra Costa County, Sacramento County, Solano County, Tulare County, and Yuba County, at the option of each county, and any additional counties that submit a plan and secure approval by the department in accordance with objective selection criteria that shall be established by the department and any evaluation contractor utilized under subdivision (e). The department shall not be required to conduct any pilot projects under this section if no county elects to participate.~~

~~(b) The Legislature finds and declares that this program will enhance family preservation and stability by recognizing that many children are in long-term, stable placements with relatives, that these placements are the permanent plan for the child, that dependencies can be dismissed pursuant to Section 388 with custody or guardianship to the relative caretaker, and that there is no need for continued government intervention in the family life through ongoing, scheduled court and social services supervision of the placement.~~



~~(c) Participation by a relative in a pilot project shall be voluntary, and the county shall nominate cases for participation. The county and a relative shall execute a long-term kinship care agreement, to be developed by the department, which specifies the details of this arrangement.~~

~~(d) Each pilot project shall, at a minimum, ensure all of the following:~~

~~(1) Only a child who is a dependent of the court, who has been in a stable placement with a relative for not less than one year after the initial permanency planning hearing placing the child with that relative, and who is receiving federal AFDC-FC payments shall be eligible under this section.~~

~~(2) Each participating child's AFDC-FC and Medi-Cal eligibility is maintained, in order to adequately support the long-term placement.~~

~~(3) A child participating in a pilot project shall continue to receive the basic foster care payment rate in accordance with Section 11461.~~

~~(4) The eligible cases shall be dismissed pursuant to Section 388, with custody or guardianship to be given to the relative caretaker.~~

~~(5) A relative shall have adequate legal protection and consent authority.~~

~~(e) The department and the pilot counties, or an entity contracting with the department and the pilot counties, shall conduct an evaluation of the pilot projects. The evaluation shall include outcome measures that address the quality of care provided to participating children and the overall cost-effectiveness of the projects for participating counties and the state. The pilot project shall be deemed a success if at least 75 percent of the children participating achieve permanent placement through either adoption by a relative or legal guardianship by a relative. The results of the evaluation shall be provided to the Legislature and the Governor three years after the date of implementation of the pilot projects.~~

~~(f) Any savings that accrue to the department as a result of this section shall revert to the General Fund. Savings that accrue to a participating county shall, however, accrue to that county's social services subaccount in its local health and welfare trust fund.~~

~~(g) This section shall become operative only if the director executes a declaration, that shall be retained by the director, stating that the necessary federal approval for implementation of this section has been obtained, and only for the duration of that approval.~~

**Section 12301.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:**

*(Topic: Public Authority and Non-Profit Consortia to Provide for the Delivery of IHSS)*

(a) Notwithstanding Sections 12302 and 12302.1, a county board of supervisors may, at its option, elect to do either of the following:

(1) Contract with a nonprofit consortium to provide for the delivery of in-home supportive services.

(2) Establish, by ordinance, a public authority to provide for the delivery of in-home supportive services.

(b) (1) To the extent that a county elects to establish a public authority pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the enabling ordinance shall specify the membership of the governing body of the public authority, the qualifications for individual members, the manner of appointment, selection, or removal of members, how long they shall serve, and other matters as the board of supervisors deems necessary for the operation of the public authority.

(2) A public authority established pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) shall be both of the following:

(A) An entity separate from the county, and shall be required to file the statement required by Section 53051 of the Government Code.

(B) A corporate public body, exercising public and essential governmental functions and that has all powers necessary or convenient to carry out the delivery of in-home supportive services, including the power to contract for services pursuant to Sections 12302 and 12302.1 and that makes or provides for direct payment to a provider chosen by the recipient for the purchase of services pursuant to Sections 12302 and 12302.2. Employees of the public authority shall not be employees of the county for any purpose.

(3) (A) As an alternative, the enabling ordinance may designate the board of supervisors as the governing body of the public authority.

(B) Any enabling ordinance that designates the board of supervisors as the governing body of the public authority shall also specify that no fewer than 50 percent of the membership of the

advisory committee shall be individuals who are current or past users of personal assistance services paid for through public or private funds or recipients of services under this article.

(C) If the enabling ordinance designates the board of supervisors as the governing body of the public authority, it shall also require the appointment of an advisory committee of not more than 11 individuals who shall be designated in accordance with subparagraph (B).

(D) Prior to making designations of committee members pursuant to subparagraph (C), or governing body members in accordance with paragraph (4), the board of supervisors shall solicit recommendations of qualified members of either the governing body of the public authority or of any advisory committee through a fair and open process that includes the provision of reasonable written notice to, and a reasonable response time by, members of the general public and interested persons and organizations.

(4) If the enabling ordinance does not designate the board of supervisors as the governing body of the public authority, the enabling ordinance shall require the membership of the governing body to meet the requirements of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3).

(c) (1) Any public authority created pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be the employer of in-home supportive services personnel referred to recipients under paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) within the meaning of Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code. Recipients shall retain the right to hire, fire, and supervise the work of any in-home supportive services personnel providing services to them.

(2) (A) Any nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be the employer of in-home supportive services personnel referred to recipients pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) for the purposes of collective bargaining over wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.

(B) Recipients shall retain the right to hire, fire, and supervise the work of any in-home supportive services personnel providing services for them.

(d) A public authority established pursuant to this section or a nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section, when providing for the delivery of services under this article by contract in accordance with Sections 12302 and 12302.1 or by direct payment to a provider chosen by a recipient in accordance with Sections 12302 and 12302.2, shall comply with and be subject to, all statutory and regulatory provisions applicable to the respective delivery mode.

(e) Any nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section or any public authority established pursuant to this section shall provide for all of the following functions under this article, but shall not be limited to those functions:

(1) The provision of assistance to recipients in finding in-home supportive services personnel through the establishment of a registry.

(2) (A) (i) The investigation of the qualifications and background of potential personnel. Upon the effective date of the amendments to this section made during the 2009–10 Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Legislature, the investigation with respect to any provider in the registry or prospective registry applicant shall include criminal background checks requested by the nonprofit consortium or public authority and conducted by the Department of Justice pursuant to Section 15660, for those public authorities or nonprofit consortia using the agencies on the effective date of the amendments to this section made during the 2009–10 Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Legislature. Criminal background checks shall be performed no later than July 1, 2010, for any provider who is already on the registry on the effective date of amendments to this section made during the 2009–10 Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Legislature, for whom a criminal background check pursuant to this section has not previously been provided, as a condition of the provider’s continued enrollment in the IHSS program. Criminal background checks shall be conducted at the provider’s expense.

(ii) Upon notice from the Department of Justice notifying the public authority or nonprofit consortium that the prospective registry applicant has been convicted of a criminal offense specified in Section 12305.81, the public authority or nonprofit consortium shall deny the request to be placed on the registry for providing supportive services to any recipient of the In-Home Supportive Services program.

(iii) Commencing 90 days after the effective date of the act that adds Section 12305.87, and upon notice from the Department of Justice that an applicant who is subject to the provisions of that section has been convicted of, or incarcerated following conviction for, an offense described in subdivision (b) of that section, the public authority or nonprofit consortium shall deny the applicant’s request to become a provider of supportive services to any recipient of in-home supportive services, subject to the individual waiver and exception processes described in that section. An applicant who is denied on the basis of Section 12305.87 shall be informed by the

public authority or nonprofit consortium of the individual waiver and exception processes described in that section.

(B) (i) Notwithstanding any other law, the public authority or nonprofit consortium shall provide an individual with a copy of his or her state-level criminal offender record information search response as provided to the entity by the Department of Justice if the individual has been denied placement on the registry for providing supportive services to any recipient of the In-Home Supportive Services program based on this information. The copy of the state-level criminal offender record information search response shall be included with the individual's notice of denial. Along with the notice of denial, the public authority or public consortium shall also provide information in plain language on how an individual may contest the accuracy and completeness of, and refute any erroneous or inaccurate information in, his or her state-level criminal offender record information search response as provided by the Department of Justice as authorized by Section 11126 of the Penal Code. The state-level criminal offender record information search response shall not be modified or altered from its form or content as provided by the Department of Justice.

(ii) The department shall develop a written appeal process for the current and prospective providers who are determined ineligible to receive payment for the provision of services in the In-Home Supportive Services program. Notwithstanding any other law, the public authority or nonprofit consortium shall provide the department with a copy of the state-level criminal offender record information search response as provided to the entity by the Department of Justice for any individual who has requested an appeal of a denial of placement on the registry for providing supportive services to any recipient of the In-Home Supportive Services program based on clause (ii) or (iii) of subparagraph (A). The state-level criminal offender record information search response shall not be modified or altered from its form or content as provided by the Department of Justice and shall be provided to the address specified by the department in its written request.

(C) This paragraph shall not be construed to prohibit the Department of Justice from assessing a fee pursuant to Section 11105 or 11123 of the Penal Code to cover the cost of furnishing summary criminal history information.

(D) As used in this section, “nonprofit consortium” means a nonprofit public benefit corporation that has all powers necessary to carry out the delivery of in-home supportive services under the delegated authority of a government entity.

(E) A nonprofit consortium or a public authority authorized to secure a criminal background check clearance pursuant to this section shall accept a clearance for an applicant described in clause (i) of subparagraph (A) who has been deemed eligible by another nonprofit consortium, public authority, or county with criminal background check authority pursuant to either Section 12305.86 or this section, to receive payment for providing services pursuant to this article. Existence of a clearance shall be determined by verification through the case management, information, and payroll system, that another county, nonprofit consortium, or public authority with criminal background check authority pursuant to Section 12305.86 or this section has deemed the current or prospective provider to be eligible to receive payment for providing services pursuant to this article.

(3) Establishment of a referral system under which in-home supportive services personnel shall be referred to recipients.

(4) Providing for training for providers and recipients.

(5) (A) Performing any other functions related to the delivery of in-home supportive services.

(B) (i) Upon request of a recipient of in-home supportive services pursuant to this chapter, or a recipient of personal care services under the Medi-Cal program pursuant to Section 14132.95, a public authority or nonprofit consortium may provide a criminal background check on a nonregistry applicant or provider from the Department of Justice, in accordance with clause (i) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e). If the person who is the subject of the criminal background check is not hired or is terminated because of the information contained in the criminal background report, the provisions of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) shall apply.

(ii) A recipient of in-home supportive services pursuant to this chapter or a recipient of personal care services under the Medi-Cal program may elect to employ an individual as their service provider notwithstanding the individual’s record of previous criminal convictions, unless those convictions include any of the offenses specified in Section 12305.81.

(6) Ensuring that the requirements of the personal care option pursuant to Subchapter 19 (commencing with Section 1396) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code are met.

(f) (1) Any nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section or any public authority created pursuant to this section shall be deemed not to be the employer of in-home supportive services personnel referred to recipients under this section for purposes of liability due to the negligence or intentional torts of the in-home supportive services personnel.

(2) In no case shall a nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section or any public authority created pursuant to this section be held liable for action or omission of any in-home supportive services personnel whom the nonprofit consortium or public authority did not list on its registry or otherwise refer to a recipient.

(3) Counties and the state shall be immune from any liability resulting from their implementation of this section in the administration of the In-Home Supportive Services program. Any obligation of the public authority or consortium pursuant to this section, whether statutory, contractual, or otherwise, shall be the obligation solely of the public authority or nonprofit consortium, and shall not be the obligation of the county or state.

(g) Any nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section shall ensure that it has a governing body that complies with the requirements of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) or an advisory committee that complies with subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b).

(h) Recipients of services under this section may elect to receive services from in-home supportive services personnel who are not referred to them by the public authority or nonprofit consortium. Those personnel shall be referred to the public authority or nonprofit consortium for the purposes of wages, benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment.

(i) (1) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the state's responsibility with respect to the state payroll system, unemployment insurance, or workers' compensation and other provisions of Section 12302.2 for providers of in-home supportive services.

(2) The Controller shall make any deductions from the wages of in-home supportive services personnel, who are employees of a public authority pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (c), that are agreed to by that public authority in collective bargaining with the designated representative of the in-home supportive services personnel pursuant to Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code and transfer the deducted funds as directed in that agreement.

(3) Any county that elects to provide in-home supportive services pursuant to this section shall be responsible for any increased costs to the in-home supportive services case management, information, and payroll system attributable to that election. The department shall collaborate with any county that elects to provide in-home supportive services pursuant to this section prior to implementing the amount of financial obligation for which the county shall be responsible.

(j) To the extent permitted by federal law, personal care option funds, obtained pursuant to Subchapter 19 (commencing with Section 1396) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code, along with matching funds using the state and county sharing ratio established in subdivision (c) of Section 12306, or any other funds that are obtained pursuant to Subchapter 19 (commencing with Section 1396) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code, may be used to establish and operate an entity authorized by this section.

(k) Notwithstanding any other law, the county, in exercising its option to establish a public authority, shall not be subject to competitive bidding requirements. However, contracts entered into by either the county, a public authority, or a nonprofit consortium pursuant to this section shall be subject to competitive bidding as otherwise required by law.

(l) (1) The department may adopt regulations implementing this section as emergency regulations in accordance with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. For the purposes of the Administrative Procedure Act, the adoption of the regulations shall be deemed an emergency and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, or general welfare.

Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, these emergency regulations shall not be subject to the review and approval of the Office of Administrative Law.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (h) of Section 11346.1 and Section 11349.6 of the Government Code, the department shall transmit these regulations directly to the Secretary of State for filing. The regulations shall become effective immediately upon filing by the Secretary of State.

(3) Except as otherwise provided for by Section 10554, the Office of Administrative Law shall provide for the printing and publication of these regulations in the California Code of Regulations. Emergency regulations adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall remain in effect for no more than 180 days.



(m) (1) In the event that a county elects to form a nonprofit consortium or public authority pursuant to subdivision (a) before the State Department of Health Care Services has obtained all necessary federal approvals pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (j) of Section 14132.95, all of the following shall apply:

(A) Subdivision (d) shall apply only to those matters that do not require federal approval.

(B) The second sentence of subdivision (h) shall not be operative.

(C) The nonprofit consortium or public authority shall not provide services other than those specified in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) of subdivision (e).

(2) Paragraph (1) shall become inoperative when the State Department of Health Care Services has obtained all necessary federal approvals pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (j) of Section 14132.95.

(n) (1) One year after the effective date of the first approval by the department granted to the first public authority, the Bureau of State Audits shall commission a study to review the performance of that public authority.

(2) The study shall be submitted to the Legislature and the Governor not later than two years after the effective date of the approval specified in subdivision (a). The study shall give special attention to the health and welfare of the recipients under the public authority, including the degree to which all required services have been delivered, out-of-home placement rates, prompt response to recipient complaints, and any other issue the director deems relevant.

(3) The report shall make recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor for any changes to this section that will further ensure the well-being of recipients and the most efficient delivery of required services.

~~(o) Commencing July 1, 1997, the department shall provide annual reports to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature on the efficacy of the implementation of this section, and shall include an assessment of the quality of care provided pursuant to this section.~~

(op) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, and except as provided in paragraph (2), the department shall, no later than January 1, 2009, implement subparagraphs (A) and (B) through an all-county letter from the director:

(A) Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e).

(B) Subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (e).

(2) The department shall, no later than July 1, 2009, adopt regulations to implement subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1).

~~(pq)~~ The amendments made to paragraphs (2) and (5) of subdivision (e) made by the act that added this subdivision during the 2007–08 Regular Session of the Legislature shall be implemented only to the extent that an appropriation is made in the annual Budget Act or other statute, except for the amendments that added subparagraph (D) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e), which shall go into effect January 1, 2009.

**Section 13913 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is repealed.**

*(Topic: Out of Home Care for Public Assistance Recipient)*

~~**13913. The director shall submit an annual report to the Legislature by March 1 of each year setting forth pertinent facts on the operation of the program established by this chapter and its significance in relation to the out-of-home care services of the Medi-Cal program.**~~

**Section 14182.17 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:**

*(Topic: Pilot Project for Dually Eligible Medi-Cal and Medicare Recipients)*

(a) For the purposes of this section, the definitions in subdivision (b) of Section 14182.16 shall apply.

(b) The department shall ensure and improve the care coordination and integration of health care services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries residing in Coordinated Care Initiative counties who are either of the following:

(1) Dual eligible beneficiaries, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 14182.16, who receive Medi-Cal benefits and services through the demonstration project established pursuant to Section 14132.275 or through mandatory enrollment in managed care health plans pursuant to Section 14182.16.

(2) Medi-Cal beneficiaries who receive long-term services and supports pursuant to Article 5.7 (commencing with Section 14186).

(c) The department shall develop an enrollment process to be used in Coordinated Care Initiative counties to do the following:

(1) Except in a county that provides Medi-Cal services under a county organized health system pursuant to Article 2.8 (commencing with Section 14087.5), provide a choice of Medi-Cal

managed care plans to a dual eligible beneficiary who has opted for Medicare fee-for-service, and establish an algorithm to assign beneficiaries who do not make a choice.

(2) Ensure that only beneficiaries required to make a choice or affirmatively opt out are sent enrollment materials.

(3) Establish enrollment timelines, developed in consultation with health plans and stakeholders, and approved by CMS, for each demonstration site. The timeline may provide for combining or phasing in enrollment for Medicare and Medi-Cal benefits.

(d) Before the department contracts with managed care health plans or Medi-Cal providers to furnish Medi-Cal benefits and services pursuant to subdivision (b), the department shall do all of the following:

(1) Ensure timely and appropriate communications with beneficiaries as follows:

(A) At least 90 days prior to enrollment, inform dual eligible beneficiaries through a notice written at not more than a sixth-grade reading level that includes, at a minimum, how the Medi-Cal system of care will change, when the changes will occur, and who they can contact for assistance with choosing a managed care health plan or with problems they encounter.

(B) Develop and implement an outreach and education program for beneficiaries to inform them of their enrollment options and rights, including specific steps to work with consumer and beneficiary community groups.

(C) Develop, in consultation with consumers, beneficiaries, and other stakeholders, an overall communications plan that includes all aspects of developing beneficiary notices.

(D) Ensure that managed care health plans and their provider networks are able to provide communication and services to dual eligible beneficiaries in alternative formats that are culturally, linguistically, and physically appropriate through means, including, but not limited to, assistive listening systems, sign language interpreters, captioning, written communication, plain language, and written translations.

(E) Ensure that managed care health plans have prepared materials to inform beneficiaries of procedures for obtaining Medi-Cal benefits, including grievance and appeals procedures, that are offered by the plan or are available through the Medi-Cal program.

(F) Ensure that managed care health plans have policies and procedures in effect to address the effective transition of beneficiaries from Medicare Part D plans not participating in the demonstration project. These policies shall include, but not be limited to, the transition of care

requirements for Medicare Part D benefits as described in Chapters 6 and 14 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual, published by CMS, including a determination of which beneficiaries require information about their transition supply, and, within the first 90 days of coverage under a new plan, provide for a temporary fill when the beneficiary requests a refill of a nonformulary drug.

(G) Contingent upon available private or public funds other than moneys from the General Fund, contract with community-based, nonprofit consumer, or health insurance assistance organizations with expertise and experience in assisting dual eligible beneficiaries in understanding their health care coverage options.

(H) Develop, with stakeholder input, informing and enrollment materials and an enrollment process in the demonstration site counties. The department shall ensure all of the following prior to implementing enrollment:

(i) Enrollment materials shall be made public at least 60 days prior to the first mailing of notices to dual eligible beneficiaries, and the department shall work with stakeholders to incorporate public comment into the materials.

(ii) The materials shall be in a not more than sixth grade reading level and shall be available in all the Medi-Cal threshold languages, as well as in alternative formats that are culturally, linguistically, and physically appropriate. For in-person enrollment assistance, disability accommodation shall be provided, when appropriate, through means including, but not limited to, assistive listening systems, sign language interpreters, captioning, and written communication.

(iii) The materials shall plainly state that the beneficiary may choose fee-for-service Medicare or Medicare Advantage, but must return the form to indicate this choice, and that if the beneficiary does not return the form, the state shall assign the beneficiary to a plan and all Medicare and Medi-Cal benefits shall only be available through that plan.

(iv) The materials shall plainly state that the beneficiary shall be enrolled in a Medi-Cal managed care health plan even if he or she chooses to stay in fee-for-service Medicare.

(v) The materials shall plainly explain all of the following:

(I) The plan choices.

(II) Continuity of care provisions.

(III) How to determine which providers are enrolled in each plan.

(IV) How to obtain assistance with the choice forms.

(vi) The enrollment contractor recognizes, in compliance with existing statutes and regulations, authorized representatives, including, but not limited to, a caregiver, family member, conservator, or a legal services advocate, who is recognized by any of the services or programs that the person is already receiving or participating in.

(I) Make available to the public and to all Medi-Cal providers copies of all beneficiary notices in advance of the date the notices are sent to beneficiaries. These copies shall be available on the department's Internet Web site.

(2) Require that managed care health plans perform an assessment process that, at a minimum, does all of the following:

(A) Assesses each new enrollee's risk level and needs by performing a risk assessment process using means such as telephonic, Web-based, or in-person communication, or review of utilization and claims processing data, or by other means as determined by the department, with a particular focus on identifying those enrollees who may need long-term services and supports. The risk assessment process shall be performed in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws.

(B) Assesses the care needs of dual eligible beneficiaries and coordinates their Medi-Cal benefits across all settings, including coordination of necessary services within, and, when necessary, outside of the managed care health plan's provider network.

(C) Uses a mechanism or algorithm developed by the managed care health plan pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 14182 for risk stratification of members.

(D) At the time of enrollment, applies the risk stratification mechanism or algorithm approved by the department to determine the health risk level of members.

(E) Reviews historical Medi-Cal fee-for-service utilization data and Medicare data, to the extent either is accessible to and provided by the department, for dual eligible beneficiaries upon enrollment in a managed care health plan so that the managed care health plans are better able to assist dual eligible beneficiaries and prioritize assessment and care planning.

(F) Analyzes Medicare claims data for dual eligible beneficiaries upon enrollment in a demonstration site pursuant to Section 14132.275 to provide an appropriate transition process for newly enrolled beneficiaries who are prescribed Medicare Part D drugs that are not on the demonstration site's formulary, as required under the transition of care requirements for

Medicare Part D benefits as described in Chapters 6 and 14 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual, published by CMS.

(G) Assesses each new enrollee's behavioral health needs and historical utilization, including mental health and substance use disorder treatment services.

(H) Follows timeframes for reassessment and, if necessary, circumstances or conditions that require redetermination of risk level, which shall be set by the department.

(3) Ensure that the managed care health plans arrange for primary care by doing all of the following:

(A) Except for beneficiaries enrolled in the demonstration project pursuant to Section 14132.275, forgo interference with a beneficiary's choice of primary care physician under Medicare, and not assign a full-benefit dual eligible beneficiary to a primary care physician unless it is determined through the risk stratification and assessment process that assignment is necessary, in order to properly coordinate the care of the beneficiary or upon the beneficiary's request.

(B) Assign a primary care physician to a partial-benefit dual eligible beneficiary receiving primary or specialty care through the Medi-Cal managed care plan.

(C) Provide a mechanism for partial-benefit dual eligible enrollees to request a specialist or clinic as a primary care provider if these services are being provided through the Medi-Cal managed care health plan. A specialist or clinic may serve as a primary care provider if the specialist or clinic agrees to serve in a primary care provider role and is qualified to treat the required range of conditions of the enrollees.

(4) Ensure that the managed care health plans perform, at a minimum, and in addition to, other statutory and contractual requirements, care coordination, and care management activities as follows:

(A) Reflect a member-centered, outcome-based approach to care planning, consistent with the CMS model of care approach and with federal Medicare requirements and guidance.

(B) Adhere to a beneficiary's determination about the appropriate involvement of his or her medical providers and caregivers, according to the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-191).

(C) Develop care management and care coordination for the beneficiary across the medical and long-term services and supports care system, including transitions among levels of care and between service locations.

(D) Develop individual care plans for higher risk beneficiaries based on the results of the risk assessment process with a particular focus on long-term services and supports.

(E) Use nurses, social workers, the beneficiary's primary care physician, if appropriate, and other medical professionals to provide care management and enhanced care management, as applicable, particularly for beneficiaries in need of or receiving long-term services and supports.

(F) Consider behavioral health needs of beneficiaries and coordinate those services with the county mental health department as part of the beneficiary's care management plan when appropriate.

(G) Facilitate a beneficiary's ability to access appropriate community resources and other agencies, including referrals as necessary and appropriate for behavioral services, such as mental health and substance use disorders treatment services.

(H) Monitor skilled nursing facility utilization and develop care transition plans and programs that move beneficiaries back into the community to the extent possible. Plans shall monitor and support beneficiaries in the community to avoid further institutionalization.

(5) Ensure that the managed care health plans comply with, at a minimum, and in addition to other statutory and contractual requirements, network adequacy requirements as follows:

(A) Provide access to providers that comply with applicable state and federal law, including, but not limited to, physical accessibility and the provision of health plan information in alternative formats.

(B) Meet provider network adequacy standards for long-term services and supports that the department shall develop.

(C) Maintain an updated, accurate, and accessible listing of a provider's ability to accept new patients, which shall be made available to beneficiaries, at a minimum, by phone, written material, and the Internet, and in accessible formats, upon request.

(D) Monitor an appropriate provider network that includes an adequate number of accessible facilities within each service area.

(E) Contract with and assign patients to safety net and traditional providers as defined in subdivisions (hh) and (jj), respectively, of Section 53810 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, including small and private practice providers who have traditionally treated dual eligible patients, based on available medical history to ensure access to care and services. A

managed care health plan shall establish participation standards to ensure participation and broad representation of traditional and safety net providers within a service area.

(F) Maintain a liaison to coordinate with each regional center operating within the plan's service area to assist dual eligible beneficiaries with developmental disabilities in understanding and accessing services and act as a central point of contact for questions, access and care concerns, and problem resolution.

(G) Maintain a liaison and provide access to out-of-network providers, for up to 12 months, for new members enrolled under Sections 14132.275 and 14182.16 who have an ongoing relationship with a provider, if the provider will accept the health plan's rate for the service offered, or for nursing facilities and Community-Based Adult Services, or the applicable Medi-Cal fee-for-service rate, whichever is higher, and the managed care health plan determines that the provider meets applicable professional standards and has no disqualifying quality of care issues in accordance with guidance from the department, including all-plan letters. A partial-benefit dual eligible beneficiary enrolled in Medicare Part A who only receives primary and specialty care services through a Medi-Cal managed care health plan shall be able to receive these Medi-Cal services from an out-of-network Medi-Cal provider for 12 months after enrollment. This subparagraph shall not apply to out-of-network providers that furnish ancillary services.

(H) Assign a primary care physician who is the primary clinician for the beneficiary and who provides core clinical management functions for partial-benefit dual eligible beneficiaries who are receiving primary and specialty care through the Medi-Cal managed care health plan.

(I) Employ care managers directly or contract with nonprofit or proprietary organizations in sufficient numbers to provide coordinated care services for long-term services and supports as needed for all members.

(6) Ensure that the managed care health plans address medical and social needs as follows:

(A) Offer services beyond those required by Medicare and Medi-Cal at the managed care health plan's discretion.

(B) Refer beneficiaries to community resources or other agencies for needed medical or social services or items outside the managed care health plan's responsibilities.

(C) Facilitate communication among a beneficiary's health care and personal care providers, including long-term services and supports and behavioral health providers when appropriate.



(D) Engage in other activities or services needed to assist beneficiaries in optimizing their health status, including assisting with self-management skills or techniques, health education, and other modalities to improve health status.

(E) Facilitate timely access to primary care, specialty care, medications, and other health services needed by the beneficiary, including referrals to address any physical or cognitive barriers to access.

(F) Utilize the most recent common procedure terminology (CPT) codes, modifiers, and correct coding initiative edits.

(7) (A) Ensure that the managed care health plans provide, at a minimum, and in addition to other statutory and contractual requirements, a grievance and appeal process that does both of the following:

(i) Provides a clear, timely, and fair process for accepting and acting upon complaints, grievances, and disenrollment requests, including procedures for appealing decisions regarding coverage or benefits, as specified by the department. Each managed care health plan shall have a grievance process that complies with Section 14450, and Sections 1368 and 1368.01 of the Health and Safety Code.

(ii) Complies with a Medicare and Medi-Cal grievance and appeal process, as applicable. The appeals process shall not diminish the grievance and appeals rights of IHSS recipients pursuant to Section 10950.

(B) In no circumstance shall the process for appeals be more restrictive than what is required under the Medi-Cal program.

(e) The department shall do all of the following:

(1) Monitor the managed care health plans' performance and accountability for provision of services, in addition to all other statutory and contractual monitoring and oversight requirements, by doing all of the following:

(A) Develop performance measures that are required as part of the contract to provide quality indicators for the Medi-Cal population enrolled in a managed care health plan and for the dual eligible subset of enrollees. These performance measures may include measures from the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set or measures indicative of performance in serving special needs populations, such as the National Committee for Quality Assurance

structure and process measures, or other performance measures identified or developed by the department.

(B) Implement performance measures that are required as part of the contract to provide quality assurance indicators for long-term services and supports in quality assurance plans required under the plans' contracts. These indicators shall include factors such as affirmative member choice, increased independence, avoidance of institutional care, and positive health outcomes. The department shall develop these quality assurance indicators in consultation with stakeholder groups.

(C) Effective January 10, 2014, and for each subsequent year of the demonstration project authorized under Section 14132.275, provide a report to the Legislature describing the degree to which Medi-Cal managed care health plans in counties participating in the demonstration project have fulfilled the quality requirements, as set forth in the health plan contracts.

(D) Effective June 1, 2014, and for each subsequent year of the demonstration project authorized by Section 14132.275, provide a report from the department to the Legislature summarizing information from both of the following:

(i) The independent audit report required to be submitted annually to the department by managed care health plans participating in the demonstration project authorized by Section 14132.275.

(ii) Any routine financial examinations of managed care health plans operating in the demonstration project authorized by Section 14132.275 that have been conducted and completed for the previous calendar year by the department.

(2) Monitor on a quarterly basis the utilization of covered services of beneficiaries enrolled in the demonstration project pursuant to Section 14132.275 or receiving long-term services and supports pursuant to Article 5.7 (commencing with Section 14186).

(3) Develop requirements for managed care health plans to solicit stakeholder and member participation in advisory groups for the planning and development activities relating to the provision of services for dual eligible beneficiaries.

(4) Submit to the Legislature the following information:

(A) Provide, to the fiscal and appropriate policy committees of the Legislature, a copy of any report submitted to CMS pursuant to the approved federal waiver described in Section 14180.

~~(B) Together with the State Department of Social Services, the California Department of Aging, and the Department of Managed Health Care, in consultation with stakeholders,~~

~~develop a programmatic transition plan, and submit that plan to the Legislature within 90 days of the effective date of this section. The plan shall include, but is not limited to, the following components:~~

~~(i) A description of how access and quality of service shall be maintained during and immediately after implementation of these provisions, in order to prevent unnecessary disruption of services to beneficiaries.~~

~~(ii) Explanations of the operational steps, timelines, and key milestones for determining when and how the components of paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, shall be implemented.~~

~~(iii) The process for addressing consumer complaints, including the roles and responsibilities of the departments and health required response times and the method for tracking the disposition of complaint cases. plans and how those roles and responsibilities shall be coordinated. The process shall outline The process shall include the use of an ombudsman, liaison, and 24-hour hotline dedicated to assisting Medi-Cal beneficiaries navigate among the departments and health plans to help ensure timely resolution of complaints.~~

~~(iv) A description of how stakeholders were included in the various phases of the planning process to formulate the transition plan, and how their feedback shall be taken into consideration after transition activities begin.~~

(B) The department, together with the State Department of Social Services, the California Department of Aging, and the Department of Managed Health Care, convene and consult with stakeholders at least twice during the period following production of a draft of the implementation plan and before submission of the plan to the Legislature. Continued consultation with stakeholders shall occur on an ongoing basis for the implementation of the provisions of this section.

(C) No later than 90 days prior to the initial plan enrollment date of the demonstration project pursuant to the provisions of Sections 14132.275, 14182.16, and of Article 5.7 (commencing with Section 14186), assess and report to the fiscal and appropriate policy committees of the Legislature on the readiness of the managed care health plans to address the unique needs of dual eligible beneficiaries and Medi-Cal only seniors and persons with disabilities pursuant to the applicable readiness evaluation criteria and requirements set forth in paragraphs (1) to (8), inclusive, of subdivision (b) of Section 14087.48. The report shall also include an assessment of

the readiness of the managed care health plans in each county participating in the demonstration project to have met the requirements set forth in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive.

**(DE)** The department shall submit two reports to the Legislature, with the first report submitted five months prior to the commencement date of enrollment and the second report submitted three months prior to the commencement date of enrollment, that describe the status of all of the following readiness criteria and activities that the department shall complete:

(i) Enter into contracts, either directly or by funding other agencies or community-based, nonprofit, consumer, or health insurance assistance organizations with expertise and experience in providing health plan counseling or other direct health consumer assistance to dual eligible beneficiaries, in order to assist these beneficiaries in understanding their options to participate in the demonstration project specified in Section 14132.275 and to exercise their rights and address barriers regarding access to benefits and services.

(ii) Develop a plan to ensure timely and appropriate communications with beneficiaries as follows:

(I) Develop a plan to inform beneficiaries of their enrollment options and rights, including specific steps to work with consumer and beneficiary community groups described in clause (i), consistent with the provisions of paragraph (1).

(II) Design, in consultation with consumers, beneficiaries, and stakeholders, all enrollment-related notices, including, but not limited to, summary of benefits, evidence of coverage, prescription formulary, and provider directory notices, as well as all appeals and grievance-related procedures and notices produced in coordination with existing federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines.

(III) Design a comprehensive plan for beneficiary and provider outreach, including specific materials for persons in nursing and group homes, family members, conservators, and authorized representatives of beneficiaries, as appropriate, and providers of services and supports.

(IV) Develop a description of the benefits package available to beneficiaries in order to assist them in plan selection and how they may select and access services in the demonstration project's assessment and care planning process.

(V) Design uniform and plain language materials and a process to inform seniors and persons with disabilities of copays and covered services so that beneficiaries can make informed choices.

(VI) Develop a description of the process, except in those demonstration counties that have a county operated health system, of automatically assigning beneficiaries into managed care health plans that shall include a requirement to consider Medicare service utilization, provider data, and consideration of plan quality.

(iii) Finalize rates and comprehensive contracts between the department and participating health plans to facilitate effective outreach, enroll network providers, and establish benefit packages. To the extent permitted by CMS, the plan rates and contract structure shall be provided to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature and posted on the department's Internet Web site so that they are readily available to the public.

(iv) Ensure that contracts have been entered into between plans and providers including, but not limited to, agreements with county agencies as necessary.

(v) Develop network adequacy standards for medical care and long-term supports and services that reflect the provisions of paragraph (5).

(vi) Identify dedicated department or contractor staff with adequate training and availability during business hours to address and resolve issues between health plans and beneficiaries, and establish a requirement that health plans have similar points of contact and are required to respond to state inquiries when continuity of care issues arise.

(vii) Develop a tracking mechanism for inquiries and complaints for quality assessment purposes, and post publicly on the department's Internet Web site information on the types of issues that arise and data on the resolution of complaints.

(viii) Prepare scripts and training for the department and plan customer service representatives on all aspects of the program, including training for enrollment brokers and community-based organizations on rules of enrollment and counseling of beneficiaries.

(ix) Develop continuity of care procedures.

(x) Adopt quality measures to be used to evaluate the demonstration projects. Quality measures shall be detailed enough to enable measurement of the impact of automatic plan assignment on quality of care.

(xi) Develop reporting requirements for the plans to report to the department, including data on enrollments and disenrollments, appeals and grievances, and information necessary to evaluate quality measures and care coordination models. The department shall report this information to

the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature, and this information shall be posted on the department's Internet Web site.

(f) This section shall be implemented only to the extent that all federal approvals and waivers are obtained and only if and to the extent that federal financial participation is available.

(g) To implement this section, the department may contract with public or private entities.

Contracts or amendments entered into under this section may be on an exclusive or nonexclusive basis and a noncompetitive bid basis and shall be exempt from the following:

(1) Part 2 (commencing with Section 10100) of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code and any policies, procedures, or regulations authorized by that part.

(2) Article 4 (commencing with Section 19130) of Chapter 5 of Part 2 of Division 5 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(3) Review or approval of contracts by the Department of General Services.

(h) Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, the department may implement, interpret, or make specific this section and any applicable federal waivers and state plan amendments by means of all-county letters, plan letters, plan or provider bulletins, or similar instructions, without taking regulatory action. Prior to issuing any letter or similar instrument authorized pursuant to this section, the department shall notify and consult with stakeholders, including advocates, providers, and beneficiaries. The department shall notify the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature of its intent to issue instructions under this section at least five days in advance of the issuance.

(i) Notwithstanding subdivisions (c) and (d) of Section 34 of Chapter 37 of the Statutes of 2013, this section shall not be made inoperative as a result of any determination made by the Director of Finance pursuant to Section 34 of Chapter 37 of the Statutes of 2013.

**Section 16206 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:**

*(Topic: Child Welfare Training Program)*

(a) The purpose of the program is to develop and implement statewide coordinated training programs designed specifically to meet the needs of county child protective services social workers assigned emergency response, family maintenance, family reunification, permanent placement, and adoption responsibilities. It is the intent of the Legislature that the program

include training for other agencies under contract with county welfare departments to provide child welfare services. In addition, the program shall provide training programs for persons defined as a mandated reporter pursuant to the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 11164) of Chapter 2 of Title 1 of Part 4 of the Penal Code). The program shall provide the services required in this section to the extent possible within the total allocation. If allocations are insufficient, the department, in consultation with the grantee or grantees and the Child Welfare Training Advisory Board, shall prioritize the efforts of the program, giving primary attention to the most urgently needed services. County child protective services social workers assigned emergency response responsibilities shall receive first priority for training pursuant to this section.

(b) The training program shall provide practice-relevant training for mandated child abuse reporters and all members of the child welfare delivery system that will address critical issues affecting the well-being of children, and shall develop curriculum materials and training resources for use in meeting staff development needs of mandated child abuse reporters and child welfare personnel in public and private agency settings.

(c) The training provided pursuant to this section shall include all of the following:

- (1) Crisis intervention.
- (2) Investigative techniques.
- (3) Rules of evidence.
- (4) Indicators of abuse and neglect.
- (5) Assessment criteria, including the application of guidelines for assessment of relatives for placement according to the criteria described in Section 361.3.
- (6) Intervention strategies.
- (7) Legal requirements of child protection, including requirements of child abuse reporting laws.
- (8) Case management.
- (9) Use of community resources.
- (10) Information regarding the dynamics and effects of domestic violence upon families and children, including indicators and dynamics of teen dating violence.
- (11) Posttraumatic stress disorder and the causes, symptoms, and treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder in children.

(12) The importance of maintaining relationships with individuals who are important to a child in out-of-home placement, including methods to identify those individuals, consistent with the child's best interests, including, but not limited to, asking the child about individuals who are important, and ways to maintain and support those relationships.

(13) The legal duties of a child protective services social worker, in order to protect the legal rights and safety of children and families from the initial time of contact during investigation through treatment.

(14) The information described in subdivision (d) of Section 16501.4.

(15) The information described in subdivision (i) of Section 16521.5. The program may use the curriculum created pursuant to subdivision (h), and described in subdivision (i), of Section 16521.5.

(d) The training provided pursuant to this section may also include any or all of the following:

(1) Child development and parenting.

(2) Intake, interviewing, and initial assessment.

(3) Casework and treatment.

(4) Medical aspects of child abuse and neglect.

~~(e) The training program in each county shall assess the program's performance at least annually and forward it to the State Department of Social Services for an evaluation. The assessment shall include, at a minimum, all of the following:~~

~~(1) Workforce data, including education, qualifications, and demographics.~~

~~(2) The number of persons trained.~~

~~(3) The type of training provided.~~

(ef) The training program shall provide practice-relevant training to county child protective services social workers who screen referrals for child abuse or neglect and for all workers assigned to provide emergency response, family maintenance, family reunification, and permanent placement services. The training shall be developed in consultation with the Child Welfare Training Advisory Board and domestic violence victims' advocates and other public and private agencies that provide programs for victims of domestic violence or programs of intervention for perpetrators.

**Section 16519.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:**



*(Topic: Resource Family Approval Pilot Report)*

(a) The State Department of Social Services, in consultation with county child welfare agencies, foster parent associations, and other interested community parties, shall implement a unified, family friendly, and child-centered resource family approval process to replace the existing multiple processes for licensing foster family homes, certifying foster homes by licensed foster family agencies, approving relatives and nonrelative extended family members as foster care providers, and approving guardians and adoptive families.

(b) (1) Counties shall be selected to participate on a voluntary basis as early implementation counties for the purpose of participating in the initial development of the approval process. Early implementation counties shall be selected according to criteria developed by the department in consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association. In selecting the five early implementation counties, the department shall promote diversity among the participating counties in terms of size and geographic location.

(2) Additional counties may participate in the early implementation of the program upon authorization by the department.

(3) The State Department of Social Services shall be responsible for all of the following:

(A) Selecting early implementation counties, based on criteria established by the department in consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association.

(B) Establishing timeframes for participating counties to submit an implementation plan, enter into terms and conditions for early implementation participation in the program, train appropriate staff, and accept applications from resource families.

(C) Entering into terms and conditions for early implementation participation in the program by counties.

(4) Counties participating in the early implementation of the program shall be responsible for all of the following:

(A) Submitting an implementation plan.

(B) Entering into terms and conditions for early implementation participation in the program.

(C) Consulting with the county probation department in the development of the implementation plan.

(D) Training appropriate staff.

(E) Accepting applications from resource families within the timeframes established by the department.

(5) (A) Approved relatives and nonrelative extended family members, licensed foster family homes, or approved adoptive homes that have completed the license or approval process prior to statewide implementation of the program shall not be considered part of the program. The otherwise applicable assessment and oversight processes shall continue to be administered for families and facilities not included in the program.

(B) Upon implementation of the program in a county, that county shall not accept new applications for the licensure of foster family homes, the approval of relative and nonrelative extended family members, or the approval of prospective guardians and adoptive homes.

(6) The department may waive regulations that pose a barrier to the early implementation and operation of this program. The waiver of any regulations by the department pursuant to this section shall apply to only those counties or foster family agencies participating in the early implementation of the program and only for the duration of the program.

(7) This subdivision shall become inoperative on January 1, 2017.

(c) (1) For the purposes of this article, “resource family” means an individual or family that has successfully met both the home environment assessment standards and the permanency assessment criteria adopted pursuant to subdivision (d) necessary for providing care for a related or unrelated child who is under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, or otherwise in the care of a county child welfare agency or probation department. A resource family shall demonstrate all of the following:

(A) An understanding of the safety, permanence, and well-being needs of children who have been victims of child abuse and neglect, and the capacity and willingness to meet those needs, including the need for protection, and the willingness to make use of support resources offered by the agency, or a support structure in place, or both.

(B) An understanding of children’s needs and development, effective parenting skills or knowledge about parenting, and the capacity to act as a reasonable, prudent parent in day-to-day decisionmaking.

(C) An understanding of his or her role as a resource family and the capacity to work cooperatively with the agency and other service providers in implementing the child’s case plan.

(D) The financial ability within the household to ensure the stability and financial security of the family. An applicant who will rely on the funding described in subdivision (l) to meet additional household expenses incurred due to the placement of a child shall not, for this reason, be denied approval as a resource family.

(E) An ability and willingness to provide a family setting that promotes normal childhood experiences that serves the needs of the child.

(2) For purposes of this article, and unless otherwise specified, references to a “child” shall include a “nonminor dependent” and “nonminor former dependent or ward” as defined in subdivision (v) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (aa) of Section 11400.

(3) There is no fundamental right to approval as a resource family.

(4) Subsequent to meeting the criteria set forth in this subdivision and designation as a resource family, a resource family shall be considered eligible to provide foster care for related and unrelated children in out-of-home placement and shall be considered approved for adoption or guardianship.

(5) For purposes of this article, “resource family approval” means that the applicant or resource family successfully meets the home environment assessment and permanency assessment standards. This approval is in lieu of a foster family home license issued pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 1500) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code, a certificate of approval issued by a licensed foster family agency, as described in subdivision (b) of Section 1506 of the Health and Safety Code, relative or nonrelative extended family member approval, guardianship approval, and the adoption home study approval.

(6) Approval of a resource family does not guarantee an initial, continued, or adoptive placement of a child with a resource family or with a relative or nonrelative extended family member pursuant to subdivision (e). Approval of a resource family does not guarantee the establishment of a legal guardianship of a child with a resource family.

(7) (A) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) to (6), inclusive, the department or county shall cease any further review of an application if the applicant has had a previous application denial within the preceding year, or if the applicant has had a previous rescission, revocation, or exemption denial or exemption rescission by the department or county within the preceding two years.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the department or county may continue to review an application if it has determined that the reasons for the previous denial, rescission, or revocation

were due to circumstances and conditions that either have been corrected or are no longer in existence. If an individual was excluded from a resource family home or facility licensed by the department, the department or county shall cease review of the individual's application unless the excluded individual has been reinstated pursuant to Section 11522 of the Government Code and subdivision (h) of Section 1558 of the Health and Safety Code. The cessation of review shall not constitute a denial of the application for purposes of this section or any other law.

(8) A resource family shall meet the approval standards set forth in this section, comply with the written directives or regulations adopted pursuant to this section, and comply with other applicable laws in order to maintain approval.

(9) A resource family may be approved by the department or a county pursuant to this section or by a foster family agency pursuant to Section 1517 of the Health and Safety Code.

(10) A resource family shall not be licensed as a residential facility, as defined in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 1502 of the Health and Safety Code.

(d) (1) The department shall adopt standards pertaining to the home environment and permanency assessments of a resource family.

(2) Resource family home environment assessment standards shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(A) (i) Criminal records clearance of each applicant and all adults residing in, or regularly present in, the home, and not exempted from fingerprinting, as set forth in subdivision (b) of Section 1522 of the Health and Safety Code, pursuant to Section 8712 of the Family Code, utilizing a check of the Child Abuse Central Index (CACI), and receipt of a fingerprint-based state and federal criminal offender record information search response. The criminal history information shall include subsequent notifications pursuant to Section 11105.2 of the Penal Code.

(ii) Consideration of any substantiated allegations of child abuse or neglect against the applicant and any other adult residing in, or regularly present in, the home. An approval may not be granted to applicants whose criminal record indicates a conviction for any of the offenses specified in subdivision (g) of Section 1522 of the Health and Safety Code.

(iii) If the resource family parent, applicant, or any other person specified in subdivision (b) of Section 1522 of the Health and Safety Code has been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation or arrested for an offense specified in subdivision (e) of Section 1522 of the

Health and Safety Code, except for the civil penalty language, the criminal background check provisions specified in subdivisions (d) through (f) of Section 1522 of the Health and Safety Code shall apply. Exemptions from the criminal records clearance requirements set forth in this section may be granted by the department or the county, if that county had been granted permission by the department to issue criminal records exemptions pursuant to Section 361.4 on or before January 1, 2017, using the exemption criteria specified in subdivision (g) of Section 1522 of the Health and Safety Code and the written directives or regulations adopted pursuant to this section.

(iv) For public foster family agencies approving resource families, the criminal records clearance process set forth in clause (i) shall be utilized.

(v) For private foster family agencies approving resource families, the criminal records clearance process set forth in clause (i) shall be utilized, but the Department of Justice shall disseminate a fitness determination resulting from the federal criminal offender record information search.

(B) Buildings and grounds and storage requirements that ensure the health and safety of children.

(C) In addition to the foregoing requirements, the resource family home environment assessment standards shall also require the following:

(i) That the applicant demonstrates an understanding about the rights of children in care and his or her responsibility to safeguard those rights.

(ii) That the total number of children residing in the home of a resource family shall be no more than the total number of children the resource family can properly care for, regardless of status, and shall not exceed six children, unless exceptional circumstances that are documented in the foster child's case file exist to permit a resource family to care for more children, including, but not limited to, the need to place siblings together.

(iii) That the applicant understands his or her responsibilities with respect to acting as a reasonable and prudent parent, and maintaining the least restrictive environment that serves the needs of the child.

(3) The resource family permanency assessment standards shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(A) Caregiver training, as described in subdivisions (g) and (h).

(B) A psychosocial assessment of an applicant, which shall include the results of a risk assessment.

(i) When the applicant is a relative or nonrelative extended family member to an identified child, the psychosocial assessment shall consider the nature of the relationship between the relative or nonrelative extended family member and the child. The relative or nonrelative extended family member's expressed desire to only care for a specific child or children shall not be a reason to deny the approval.

(ii) A caregiver risk assessment shall include, but not be limited to, physical and mental health, alcohol and other substance use and abuse, family and domestic violence, and the factors listed in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).

(C) Completion of any other activities that relate to the ability of an applicant or a resource family to achieve permanency with a child.

(e) (1) A county may place a child with a resource family applicant who has successfully completed the home environment assessment prior to completion of a permanency assessment only if a compelling reason for the placement exists based on the needs of the child.

(A) The permanency assessment shall be completed within 90 days of the child's placement in the home, unless good cause exists based upon the needs of the child.

(B) If additional time is needed to complete the permanency assessment, the county shall document the extenuating circumstances for the delay and generate a timeframe for the completion of the permanency assessment.

(C) The county shall report to the department on a quarterly basis the number of families with a child in an approved home whose permanency assessment goes beyond 90 days and summarize the reasons for these delays.

(2) (A) Upon an assessment completed pursuant to Section 309 or 361.45, a county may place a child with a relative, as defined in Section 319, or nonrelative extended family member, as defined in Section 362.7.

(B) For any emergency placement made pursuant to this paragraph, the county shall initiate the home environment assessment no later than five business days after the placement, which shall include a face-to-face interview with the resource family applicant and child.

(C) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit the obligation under existing law to assess and give placement consideration to relatives and nonrelative extended family members.

(3) For any placement made pursuant to this subdivision, AFDC-FC funding shall not be available until approval of the resource family has been completed.

- (4) Any child placed under this section shall be afforded all the rights set forth in Section 16001.9 and in the written directions or regulations adopted pursuant to this section.
- (5) Nothing in this section shall limit the county's authority to inspect the home of a resource family applicant or a relative or nonrelative extended family member as often as necessary to ensure the quality of care provided.
- (f) The State Department of Social Services shall be responsible for all of the following:
- (1) (A) Until regulations are adopted, administering the program through the issuance of written directives that shall have the same force and effect as regulations. Any directive affecting Article 1 (commencing with Section 700) of Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 11 of the California Code of Regulations shall be approved by the Department of Justice. The directives shall be exempt from the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340)) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.
- (B) Adopting, amending, or repealing, in accordance with Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, any reasonable rules, regulations, and standards that may be necessary or proper to carry out the purposes and intent of this chapter and to enable the department to exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred upon it by this section, consistent with the laws of this state.
- (2) Approving and requiring the use of a single standard for resource family approval.
- (3) Adopting and requiring the use of standardized documentation for the home environment and permanency assessments of resource families.
- (4) Adopting core competencies for county staff to participate in the assessment and evaluation of an applicant or resource family.
- (5) Requiring counties to monitor county-approved resource families, including, but not limited to, both of the following:
- (A) Investigating complaints of resource families.
- (B) Developing and monitoring resource family corrective action plans to correct identified deficiencies and to rescind resource family approval if compliance with corrective action plans is not achieved.
- (6) Ongoing oversight and monitoring of county systems and operations including all of the following:
- (A) Reviewing the county's implementation plan and implementation of the program.

(B) Reviewing an adequate number of county-approved resource families in each county to ensure that approval standards are being properly applied. The review shall include case file documentation, and may include onsite inspection of individual resource families. The review shall occur on an annual basis, and more frequently if the department becomes aware that a county is experiencing a disproportionate number of complaints against individual resource family homes.

(C) Reviewing county reports of serious complaints and incidents involving approved resource families, as determined necessary by the department. The department may conduct an independent review of the complaint or incident and change the findings depending on the results of its investigation.

(D) Investigating unresolved complaints against counties.

(E) Requiring corrective action of counties that are not in full compliance with this section.

~~(7) Updating the Legislature on the early implementation phase of the program, including the status of implementation, successes, and challenges during the early implementation phase, and relevant available data, including resource family satisfaction.~~

~~(7)~~ Implementing due process procedures, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(A) Providing a statewide fair hearing process for application denials, rescissions of approval, exclusion actions, or criminal record exemption denials or rescissions by a county or the department.

(B) Providing an excluded individual with due process pursuant to Section 16519.6.

(C) Amending the department's applicable state hearing procedures and regulations or using the Administrative Procedure Act, when applicable, as necessary for the administration of the program.

(g) Counties shall be responsible for all of the following:

(1) Submitting an implementation plan and consulting with the county probation department in the development of the implementation plan.

(2) Complying with the written directives or regulations adopted pursuant to this section.

(3) Implementing the requirements for resource family approval and utilizing standardized documentation established by the department.



(4) Training appropriate staff, including ensuring staff have the education and experience or core competencies necessary to participate in the assessment and evaluation of an applicant or resource family.

(5) (A) Taking the following actions, as applicable:

(i) (I) Approving or denying resource family applications, including preparing a written evaluation of an applicant's capacity to foster, adopt, or provide legal guardianship of a child based on all of the information gathered through the resource family application and assessment processes.

(II) Considering the applicant's preference to provide a specific level of permanency, including adoption, guardianship, or, in the case of a relative, placement with a fit and willing relative, shall not be a basis to deny an application.

(ii) Rescinding approvals of resource families.

(iii) When applicable, referring a case to the department for an action to exclude a resource family parent or other individual from presence in a resource family home, consistent with the established standard.

(iv) Issuing a temporary suspension order that suspends the resource family approval prior to a hearing when urgent action is needed to protect a child from physical or mental abuse, abandonment, or any other substantial threat to health or safety, consistent with the established standard.

(v) Granting, denying, or rescinding criminal record exemptions.

(B) Providing a resource family parent, applicant, or individual who is the subject of a criminal record exemption decision with due process pursuant to Section 16519.6.

(C) Notifying the department of any decisions denying an application for resource family approval, rescinding the approval of a resource family, or denying or rescinding a criminal record exemption and, if applicable, notifying the department of the results of an administrative action.

(6) (A) Updating resource family approval annually and as necessary to address any changes that have occurred in the resource family's circumstances, including, but not limited to, moving to a new home location or commencing operation of a family day care home, as defined in Section 1596.78 of the Health and Safety Code.

(B) A county shall conduct an announced inspection of a resource family home during the annual update, and as necessary to address any changes specified in subparagraph (A), in order to ensure that the resource family is conforming to all applicable laws and the written directives or regulations adopted pursuant to this section.

(7) Monitoring resource families through all of the following:

(A) Ensuring that social workers who identify a condition in the home that may not meet the approval standards set forth in subdivision (d) while in the course of a routine visit to children placed with a resource family take appropriate action as needed.

(B) Requiring resource families to meet the approval standards set forth in this section and to comply with the written directives or regulations adopted pursuant to this section, other applicable laws, and corrective action plans as necessary to correct identified deficiencies. If corrective action is not completed as specified in the plan, the county may rescind the resource family approval.

(C) Requiring resource families to report to the county child welfare agency any incidents consistent with the reporting requirements for licensed foster family homes.

(D) Inspecting resource family homes as often as necessary to ensure the quality of care provided.

(8) (A) Investigating all complaints against a resource family and taking action as necessary, including, but not limited to, investigating any incidents reported about a resource family indicating that the approval standard is not being maintained and inspecting the resource family home.

(B) The child's social worker shall not conduct the formal investigation into the complaint received concerning a family providing services under the standards required by subdivision (d). To the extent that adequate resources are available, complaints shall be investigated by a worker who did not initially conduct the home environment or psychosocial assessments.

(C) Upon conclusion of the complaint investigation, the final disposition shall be reviewed and approved by a supervising staff member.

(D) The department shall be notified of any serious incidents or serious complaints or any incident that falls within the definition of Section 11165.5 of the Penal Code. If those incidents or complaints result in an investigation, the department shall also be notified as to the status and disposition of that investigation.

- (9) Performing corrective action as required by the department.
- (10) Assessing county performance in related areas of the California Child and Family Services Review System, and remedying problems identified.
- (11) Submitting information and data that the department determines is necessary to study, monitor, and prepare the report specified in paragraph (6) of subdivision (f).
- (12) Ensuring resource family applicants and resource families have the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to support children in foster care by completing caregiver training. The training should include a curriculum that supports the role of a resource family in parenting vulnerable children and should be ongoing in order to provide resource families with information on trauma-informed practices and requirements and other topics within the foster care system.
- (13) Ensuring that a resource family applicant completes a minimum of 12 hours of preapproval caregiver training. The training shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following courses:
- (A) An overview of the child protective and probation systems.
  - (B) The effects of trauma, including grief and loss, and child abuse and neglect, on child development and behavior, and methods to behaviorally support children impacted by that trauma or child abuse and neglect.
  - (C) Positive discipline and the importance of self-esteem.
  - (D) Health issues in foster care.
  - (E) Accessing services and supports to address education needs, physical, mental, and behavioral health, and substance use disorders, including culturally relevant services.
  - (F) The rights of a child in foster care, and the resource family's responsibility to safeguard those rights, including the right to have fair and equal access to all available services, placement, care, treatment, and benefits, and to not be subjected to discrimination or harassment on the basis of actual or perceived race, ethnic group identification, ancestry, national origin, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental or physical disability, or HIV status.
  - (G) Cultural needs of children, including instruction on cultural competency and sensitivity, and related best practices for providing adequate care for children or youth across diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds, as well as children or youth identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender.
  - (H) Basic instruction on existing laws and procedures regarding the safety of foster youth at school; and ensuring a harassment and violence free school environment pursuant to former

Article 3.6 (commencing with Section 32228) of Chapter 2 of Part 19 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code.

(I) Permanence, well-being, and education needs of children.

(J) Child and adolescent development, including sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression.

(K) The role of resource families, including working cooperatively with the child welfare or probation agency, the child's family, and other service providers implementing the case plan.

(L) The role of a resource family on the child and family team as defined in paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 16501.

(M) A resource family's responsibility to act as a reasonable and prudent parent, as described in subdivision (c) of Section 1522.44 of the Health and Safety Code, and to provide a family setting that promotes normal childhood experiences and that serves the needs of the child.

(N) An overview of the specialized training identified in subdivision (h).

(O) The information described in subdivision (i) of Section 16521.5. The program may use the curriculum created pursuant to subdivision (h), and described in subdivision (i), of Section 16521.5.

(14) Ensuring approved resource families complete a minimum of eight hours of caregiver training annually, a portion of which shall be from subparagraph (M) of paragraph (13) and from one or more of the other topics listed in paragraph (13).

(h) In addition to any training required by this section, a county may require a resource family or applicant to receive relevant specialized training for the purpose of preparing the resource family to meet the needs of a particular child in care. This training may include, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) Understanding how to use best practices for providing care and supervision to commercially sexually exploited children.

(2) Understanding how to use best practices for providing care and supervision to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender children.

(3) Understanding the requirements and best practices regarding psychotropic medications, including, but not limited to, court authorization, benefits, uses, side effects, interactions, assistance with self-administration, misuse, documentation, storage, and metabolic monitoring of children prescribed psychotropic medications.

- (4) Understanding the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (25 U.S.C. Sec. 1901 et seq.), its historical significance, the rights of children covered by the act, and the best interests of Indian children, including the role of the caregiver in supporting culturally appropriate, child-centered practices that respect Native American history, culture, retention of tribal membership and connection to the tribal community and traditions.
- (5) Understanding how to use best practices for providing care and supervision to nonminor dependents.
- (6) Understanding how to use best practices for providing care and supervision to children with special health care needs.
- (7) Understanding the different permanency options and the services and benefits associated with the options.
- (i) Nothing in this section shall preclude a county from requiring training in excess of the requirements in this section.
- (j) (1) Resource families who move home locations shall retain their resource family status pending the outcome of the update conducted pursuant to paragraph (6) of subdivision (g).
- (2) (A) If a resource family moves from one county to another county, the department, or the county to which a resource family has moved, shall submit a written request to the Department of Justice to transfer the individual's subsequent arrest notification, as specified in subdivision (h) of Section 1522 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (B) A request to transfer subsequent arrest notification shall contain all prescribed data elements and format protocols pursuant to a written agreement between the department and the Department of Justice.
- (3) Subject to the requirements in paragraph (1), the resource family shall continue to be approved for guardianship and adoption. Nothing in this subdivision shall limit a county, foster family agency, or adoption agency from determining that the family is not approved for guardianship or adoption based on changes in the family's circumstances or psychosocial assessment.
- (k) Implementation of the program shall be contingent upon the continued availability of federal Social Security Act Title IV-E (42 U.S.C. Sec. 670) funds for costs associated with placement of children with resource families assessed and approved under the program.

(l) A child placed with a resource family is eligible for the resource family basic rate, pursuant to Sections 11253.45, 11460, 11461, and 11463, and subdivision (l) of Section 11461.3, at the child's assessed level of care.

(m) Sharing ratios for nonfederal expenditures for all costs associated with activities related to the approval of relatives and nonrelative extended family members shall be in accordance with Section 10101.

(n) The Department of Justice shall charge fees sufficient to cover the cost of initial or subsequent criminal offender record information and Child Abuse Central Index searches, processing, or responses, as specified in this section.

(o) Except as provided, approved resource families shall be exempt from both of the following:

(1) Licensure requirements set forth under the Community Care Facilities Act, commencing with Section 1500 of the Health and Safety Code, and all regulations promulgated thereto.

(2) Relative and nonrelative extended family member approval requirements set forth under Sections 309, 361.4, and 362.7, and all regulations promulgated thereto.

(p) (1) Early implementation counties shall be authorized to continue through December 31, 2016. The program shall be implemented by each county on or before January 1, 2017.

(2) (A) (i) On and after January 1, 2017, a county to which the department has delegated its licensing authority pursuant to Section 1511 of the Health and Safety Code shall approve resource families in lieu of licensing foster family homes.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), the existing licensure and oversight processes shall continue to be administered for foster family homes licensed prior to January 1, 2017, or as specified in subparagraph (C), until the license is revoked or forfeited by operation of law pursuant to Section 1517.1 of the Health and Safety Code.

(B) (i) On and after January 1, 2017, a county shall approve resource families in lieu of approving relative and nonrelative extended family members.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), the existing approval and oversight processes shall continue to be administered for relatives and nonrelative extended family members approved prior to January 1, 2017, or as specified in subparagraph (C), until the approval is revoked or forfeited by operation of law pursuant to this section.

(C) Notwithstanding subparagraph (D), a county shall approve or deny all applications for foster family home licenses and requests for relative or nonrelative extended family member approvals

received on or before December 31, 2016, in accordance with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 1500) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code or provisions providing for the approval of relatives or nonrelative extended family members, as applicable.

(D) On and after January 1, 2017, a county shall not accept applications for foster family home licenses or requests to approve relatives or nonrelative extended family members.

(3) No later than July 1, 2017, each county shall provide the following information to all licensed foster family homes and approved relatives and nonrelative extended family members licensed or approved by the county:

(A) A detailed description of the resource family approval program.

(B) Notification that, in order to care for a foster child, resource family approval is required by December 31, 2019.

(C) Notification that a foster family home license and an approval of a relative or nonrelative extended family member shall be forfeited by operation of law as specified in paragraph (5).

(4) By no later than January 1, 2018, the following shall apply to all licensed foster family homes and approved relative and nonrelative extended family members:

(A) A licensed foster family home or an approved relative or nonrelative extended family member with an approved adoptive home study completed prior to January 1, 2018, shall be deemed to be an approved resource family.

(B) A licensed foster family home or an approved relative or nonrelative extended family member who had a child in placement at any time between January 1, 2017, and December 31, 2017, inclusive, may be approved as a resource family on the date of successful completion of a psychosocial assessment pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (d).

(C) A county may provide supportive services to all licensed foster family homes, relatives, and nonrelative extended family members with a child in placement to assist with the resource family transition and to minimize placement disruptions.

(5) All foster family licenses and approvals of relatives and nonrelative extended family members shall be forfeited by operation of law on December 31, 2019, except as provided in this paragraph or Section 1524 of the Health and Safety Code:

(A) All licensed foster family homes that did not have a child in placement at any time between January 1, 2017, and December 31, 2017, inclusive, shall forfeit the license by operation of law on January 1, 2018.

(B) For foster family home licensees and approved relatives or nonrelative extended family members who have a pending resource family application on December 31, 2019, the foster family home license or relative and nonrelative extended family member approval shall be forfeited by operation of law upon approval as a resource family. If approval is denied, forfeiture by operation of law shall occur on the date of completion of any proceedings required by law to ensure due process.

(C) A foster family home license shall be forfeited by operation of law, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 1524 of the Health and Safety Code, upon approval as a resource family.

(D) Approval as a relative or nonrelative extended family member shall be forfeited by operation of law upon approval as a resource family.

(q) On and after January 1, 2017, all licensed foster family agencies shall approve resource families in lieu of certifying foster homes, as set forth in Section 1517 of the Health and Safety Code.

(r) Commencing January 1, 2016, the department may establish participation conditions, and select and authorize foster family agencies that voluntarily submit implementation plans and revised plans of operation in accordance with requirements established by the department, to approve resource families in lieu of certifying foster homes.

(1) Notwithstanding any other law, a participating foster family agency shall require resource families to meet and maintain the resource family approval standards and requirements set forth in this chapter and in the written directives adopted hereto prior to approval and in order to maintain approval.

(2) A participating foster family agency shall implement the resource family approval program pursuant to Section 1517 of the Health and Safety Code.

(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of the department to inspect, evaluate, or investigate a complaint or incident, or initiate a disciplinary action against a foster family agency pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 1550) of Chapter 3 of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code, or to take any action it may deem necessary for the health and safety of children placed with the foster family agency.

(4) The department may adjust the foster family agency AFDC-FC rate pursuant to Section 11463 for implementation of this subdivision.

(5) This subdivision shall become inoperative on January 1, 2017.



(s) A county is authorized to obtain any arrest or conviction records or reports from any court or law enforcement agency as necessary to the performance of its duties, as provided in this section or subdivision (e) of Section 1522 of the Health and Safety Code.

(t) A resource family approved pursuant to this section shall forfeit its approval concurrent with resource family approval by a foster family agency.

**Section 18236 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:**

*(Topic: Report on Progress of Demonstration Projects for CalWORKs)*

(a) The director may approve school attendance demonstration projects in San Diego and Merced Counties, at the option of each county, to demonstrate means of increasing school attendance and graduation rates of children or teens who receive benefits under the CalWORKs program. The project shall emphasize a social service approach to children and families who are experiencing truancy problems, and shall include collaboration with the academic community to support a successful school experience. Families shall be provided a range of services, resources, and tools to assist them in coping with issues related to their children's school problems. These shall include integrated services involving the county and the appropriate school districts. After all other avenues to encourage a student to attend school have been exhausted and a family has failed to correct the truancy of a child in the family unit, a participating county may reduce a family grant by the amount of the truant child's portion grant. The full grant shall be replaced upon a showing that the student has attended school full-time for one month or has otherwise cooperated with an education or training plan developed with the county and the school district.

(b) Participating counties shall measure their success in achieving the following outcomes:

- (1) Increased attendance and graduation.
- (2) Decreased truancy.
- (3) Higher grade point averages.
- (4) Increased ADA.
- (5) Decreased dropout rates.
- (6) Increased collaboration among agencies providing services for children.
- (7) Reinforcement of parental responsibility.

(c) Prior to being selected as a demonstration project site, the governing board of each school district shall approve the project and a clear delineation of the county's and the school or school district's responsibilities shall be established in a memorandum of understanding.

~~(e) The director shall report annually to the chairpersons of the relevant policy committee of each house of the Legislature and the Chairperson of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on the progress of the demonstration projects, including the extent to which they are attaining the outcomes described in subdivision (b), the number of families sanctioned, and the average length of time of the sanctions.~~

**Section 18918 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is repealed.**

*(Topic: Food Stamp and CFAP Community Outreach and Education Campaign)*

~~**18918. Not later than January 15, 2001, the State Department of Social Services, in conjunction with the State Department of Public Health and appropriate stakeholders, shall develop and submit to the Legislature a community outreach and education campaign to help families learn about, and apply for, the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, administered in California as CalFresh, and the California Food Assistance Program. At a minimum, the plan shall include the following:**~~

~~(a) Specific milestones and objectives proposed to be completed for the upcoming year and their anticipated cost.~~

~~(b) A general description of each strategy or method to be used for outreach.~~

~~(c) Geographic areas and special populations to be targeted, if any, and why the special targeting is needed.~~

~~(d) Coordination with other state or county education and outreach efforts.~~

~~(e) The results of previous years' outreach efforts.~~

~~(1) If necessary to obtain federal financial participation the CalFresh outreach plan shall be submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture not later than January 15, 2001. The state share of the funding shall be subject to appropriation in the annual Budget Act and may be funded through the General Fund or other state or local funding sources, as appropriate.~~

~~(2) After submission of the initial plan, it shall be updated annually and submitted to the Legislature by April 1 for the following year.~~

Section 2 of AB 1048 (Chapter 567, Statutes 2010) is repealed.

*(Topic: Safely Surrendered Baby Annual Report)*

~~SEC. 2. On or before January 1, 2013, and, contingent upon availability of sufficient funding or resources for this purpose, on or before January 1 of each subsequent year, the State Department of Social Services shall report to the Legislature regarding the effect of this act, including, but not limited to, all of the following information:~~

~~(a) The number of children one year of age or younger who are found abandoned, dead or alive, in the state for each year in which reporting is required under this act.~~

~~(b) The number of infants surrendered pursuant to this act, with their approximate age.~~

~~(c) The number of medical history questionnaires completed in those cases.~~

~~(d) The number of instances in which a parent or other person having lawful custody seeks to reclaim custody of a surrendered child, both during and after the initial period following surrender, and the outcome of those cases.~~

~~(e) Whether a person seeking to reclaim custody is the individual who surrendered the child.~~

~~(f) The number of children surrendered pursuant to this act who show signs of neglect or abuse and the disposition of those cases.~~

~~(g) The number of parents or legal guardians eventually located and contacted by social workers.~~

Section 1 of AB 323 (Chapter 561, Statutes of 1997) is repealed.

*(Topic: San Bernardino Group Home Pilot Project)*

~~SECTION 1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this act to establish a pilot project relative to group homes, for the purpose of reducing complaints to the State Department of Social Services, by encouraging residents to work with group home operators to resolve concerns. The pilot project shall be limited to San Bernardino County.~~

~~(b) It is further the intent of the Legislature that the pilot project be designed to measure the increase or decrease in complaints to the Inland Empire Office Residential of the State Department of Social Services about group homes located in San Bernardino County,~~

~~as a result of the pilot project.~~

~~(e) The pilot project shall be deemed successful if, at the conclusion of the pilot project, monthly complaints to the Inland Empire Office-Residential of the State Department of Social Services about group homes located in San Bernardino County have been reduced by at least 10 percent, compared to the number of complaints that were received prior to the initiation of the pilot project.~~

~~(d) For purposes of this act, "group home" means any facility of any capacity that provides 24-hour nonmedical care and supervision to children in a structured environment with the services provided at least in part by staff employed by the licensee.~~

~~(e) This act shall not apply to family homes certified by foster family agencies, foster family homes, and small family homes. It is not the intent of the Legislature that this act be applied in a discriminatory manner.~~

~~(f) The pilot project established by this act shall terminate on January 1, 2001.~~

~~(g) Upon the conclusion of the pilot project established by this act, the State Department of Social Services shall report to the Legislature on the effectiveness of the pilot project, based upon the goals provided for by subdivision (e).~~

**Section 1 of AB 9 (Chapter 452 of the Statutes of 1996) is repealed**

*(Topic: Restricted Payment Provisions under Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program)*

~~The State Department of Social Services shall provide a copy of the initial data report on the implementation of Section 11274 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, that would be provided to the United States Department of Health and Human Services as part of the demonstration project reporting process, to the appropriate committees of the Legislature.~~