

Date of Hearing: June 2, 2020

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Lorena Gonzalez, Chair

AB 1963 (Chu) – As Amended May 4, 2020

Policy Committee: Public Safety

Vote: 6 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: Yes

Reimbursable: Yes

SUMMARY:

This bill expands the list of mandated reporters required to report incidents of child abuse as defined by the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA) to include a human resource employee of a business that employs minors and a person whose duties require direct contact with and supervision of minors in the performance of the minor's duties.

FISCAL EFFECT:

- 1) Minor and absorbable costs to counties investigating reports of abuse from any newly added mandated reporter.
- 2) Minor costs (GF) to the Department of Justice (DOJ) in workload to process arrest prints.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose and Background.** According to the author:

AB 1963 is a commonsense measure in this era of 'Times Up' and 'Me Too,' to designate human resource employees of any business which employs minors and those supervisors whose duties require direct contact and supervision of minors in the workplace as mandated reporters and direct them to the existing free training in the duties of mandated reporters.

CANRA lists 47 categories of mandated reporters of child abuse, including teachers, clergy members, peace officers, licensees, administrators or employees of a licensed community care facility, social workers, therapists, and others. Mandated reporters are required to report suspected child abuse or neglect to any police department or sheriff's department, county probation department, or the county welfare department. Current law specifies procedures for the agencies receiving a report to ensure it is transmitted to the proper jurisdiction.

- 2) **Related Legislation.** AB 189 (Kamlager-Dove), Chapter 674, Statutes of 2019, provided that a certified autism service provider, a qualified autism service professional or a qualified autism service paraprofessional provider, as defined, is a mandated reporter of known or suspected child abuse for the purpose of CANRA.
- 3) **Prior Legislation.** AB 1001 (Maienschein), Chapter 850, Statutes of 2015, expanded the definition of mandated reporter under the CANRA to include a board member of a public or

private organization whose duties require direct contact and supervision of children, including a foster family agency.

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