
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1120 (Elhawary) - Foster care: rights of foster youth

Version: February 20, 2025

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: July 14, 2025

Policy Vote: HUMAN S. 5 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: AB 1120 would require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide to foster parents, educational resources related to grooming and hygiene products appropriate for the child's culture and ethnicity.

Fiscal Impact: The CDSS estimates the following:

- General Fund costs of \$632,000 in 2026-27, \$588,000 in 2027-28, and \$407,000 annually thereafter for staffing resources to develop and provide the training required.
- One-time General Fund cost of \$435,000 in 2026-27 for the Office of the Foster Care Ombudsperson for online training, printing, design, translation and distribution of Foster Youth Bill of Rights posters, flyers, brochures, handbooks and other related materials.

Background: California law states that all children placed in foster care, either voluntarily or after being adjudged a ward or dependent of the juvenile court have certain rights, as listed in 41 enumerated rights (known as the "Foster Youth Bill of Rights"). These rights also apply to nonminor dependents in foster care, except when they conflict with nonminor dependents' retention of all their legal decisionmaking authority as an adult. Current law states these rights are broad expressions of the rights of children in foster care and are not exhaustive of all rights set forth in the United States Constitution and the California Constitution, federal and California statutes, and case law. Among these rights is the right "to receive adequate and healthy food, adequate clothing, grooming and hygiene products, and an age-appropriate allowance. Clothing and grooming and hygiene products shall respect the child's culture, ethnicity, and gender identity and expression."

Proposed Law: AB 1120 would require, as part of the existing rights for foster youth, that the CDSS provide to foster parents and others as appropriate, educational resources related to grooming and hygiene products appropriate for the child's culture and ethnicity.

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