(Without Reference to File)

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS AB 119 (Committee on Budget) As Amended June 27, 2025 Majority vote. Budget Bill Appropriations Take Effect Immediately

SUMMARY

This is the Human Services 2 Trailer Bill, including statutory changes necessary to effectuate changes in the 2025 Budget Act.

Senate Amendments

This bill does the following:

- Makes changes in the CalWORKs program, including 1) sanction deferral for the first 90 days of participation in the program, promoting early engagement and family stabilization, 2) creation of a family-centered program flow, with changes to appointment structure and plan development, 3) improvement of access to existing child care and transportation supportive services, and 4) repeal the Work Participation Rate county penalty pass-through on a prospective basis. The net changes to May Revision result in net General Fund estimated savings of \$4.6 million in 2025-26 and \$14 million in 2026-27 and on-going, with all savings to be reinvested into the CalWORKs Single Allocation.
- Requires the development and use of a standardized curriculum for child welfare mandated reporters. The statutory changes are accompanied by investments in the 2025 Budget of \$600,000 for 2025-26, \$300,000 for 2026-27, \$5.6 million in 2027-28, and \$1 million in 2028-29 (all General Fund).
- 3) Requires development of a strategic plan to maximize benefits to those eligible for CalFresh benefits. The statutory changes are accompanied by investments in the 2025 Budget of \$200,000 General Fund in 2025-26 and on-going.
- 4) Makes the implementation of the Foster Care Tiered Rate Structure subject to a budget appropriation. Implementation of the Foster Care Tiered Rate Structure is underway with rates scheduled to take effect on July 1, 2027. Additional statutory changes include necessary and technical changes in preparation toward implementation of the Foster Care Tiered Rate Structure.
- 5) Includes an extension of the waiver of any county match requirement for the Home Safe, Bringing Families Home, and Housing and Disability Advocacy Program funds. The 2025 Budget includes \$83.8 million General Fund for 2025-26 on a one-time basis for the Home Safe Program, \$81 million General Fund for 2025-26 on a one-time basis for the Bringing Families Home Program, and \$44.6 million General Fund for 2025-26 on a one-time basis for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program.
- 6) Makes an appropriation and declares that this bill is to take effect immediately as a bill providing for appropriations related to the Budget Bill.

COMMENTS

These statutory changes align to the 2025 Budget Act.

According to the Author

This bill includes statutory changes related to the CalWORKs program, child welfare services and foster care, and housing and homelessness programs that are necessary to align to appropriations in the 2025 Budget Act.

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

These statutory changes align to appropriations made in the 2025 Budget Act. The bill includes an appropriation related to child welfare programs.

VOTES:

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17-10

YES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

ABS, ABST OR NV: Ahrens, Alvarez, Bauer-Kahan, Calderon, Essayli, Hoover, Irwin, Krell, Papan, Wallis

UPDATED

VERSION: June 27, 2025

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