
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1655 (Bryan) - CalWORKs: temporary absence: immigration detention

Version: July 7, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 13, 2026

Policy Vote: HUMAN S. 4 - 1, JUD. 11 - 2

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: AB 1655 would require that, for purposes of determining eligibility for CalWORKs, a child or other member of the assistance unit who is detained in a federal immigration detention facility must be considered temporarily absent from the home for the duration of the detention.

******* ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE *******

**The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on August 13, 2026**

Fiscal Impact:

- Unknown ongoing General Fund costs, potentially low millions per every 100 CalWORKs families, for grants, employment services, and child care services.
- Unknown one-time General Fund costs, potentially low hundreds of thousands, for automation.
- Unknown costs to counties for administration. Costs would be potentially reimbursable by the state, subject to a determination by the Commission on State Mandates.

Author Amendments: Clarify requirements regarding the sworn statement.

Committee Amendments: Clarify that except for the status of being detained, the detained family member must otherwise be legally eligible for CalWORKs benefits.

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