
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2486 (Addis) - Medi-Cal: Whole Child Model program

Version: June 29, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 3, 2026

Policy Vote: HEALTH 11 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: AB 2486 would make changes to the Whole Child Model stakeholder advisory group and require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to provide reports, as specified.

Fiscal Impact: The DHCS estimates costs of \$156,000 (\$78,000 General Fund and \$78,000 federal funds) in 2027-28 and \$147,000 (\$73,500 General Fund and \$73,500 federal funds) in 2028-29 and annually thereafter until January 1, 2037, for state administration.

Background: The California Children's Services (CCS) program provides diagnostic and treatment services, medical case management, and physical and occupational therapy health care services to children under 21 years of age with CCS-eligible conditions (e.g., severe genetic diseases, chronic medical conditions, infectious diseases producing major sequelae, and traumatic injuries) from families unable to afford catastrophic health care costs. A child eligible for CCS must be a resident of California, have a CCS-eligible condition, and must generally be income-eligible.

Children who are eligible for both Medi-Cal and the CCS program are enrolled in a Medi-Cal managed care plan and receive CCS-covered services through the CCS program on a fee-for-service basis (known as the CCS "carve out"). Current law establishes the Whole Child Model, in which both Medi-Cal and most CCS services are covered and paid for by the Medi-Cal managed care plan. Current law requires DHCS to create a Whole Child Model stakeholder advisory group to inform implementation, as well as the development of the monitoring and evaluation process. The Whole Child Model advisory group sunsets on December 31, 2026.

Proposed Law: Specific provisions of the bill would:

- Add to the list of representatives on the Whole Child Model stakeholder advisory group and rename the group as the CCS advisory group.
- Require DHCS to biennially deliver a summary report to the appropriate budget and policy committees of the Legislature beginning no later than December 31, 2027, to briefly describe the department's progress towards specified measures in the Whole Child Model program and on the department's actions towards the top CCS program priorities, as specified.
- Sunset the advisory group and DHCS reporting requirements on January 1, 2037.

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