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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

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### AB 461 (Ahrens) - Truancy: CalWORKs: school attendance

**Version:** March 24, 2025

**Policy Vote:** HUMAN S. 4 - 1, PUB. S. 5 -  
1

**Urgency:** No

**Mandate:** Yes

**Hearing Date:** August 29, 2025

**Consultant:** Agnes Lee

**Bill Summary:** AB 461 would repeal the criminal misdemeanor offense for parents who fail to reasonably supervise and encourage pupil school attendance and revise the requirement for school attendance for children under the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program.

### \*\*\*\*\* ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE \*\*\*\*\*

The following information is revised to reflect amendments  
adopted by the committee on August 29, 2025

#### Fiscal Impact:

- Ongoing General Fund costs of \$141,000 annually to increase the cash aid grant for families who currently have a truancy penalty (49 cases); a one-time General Fund administration cost of \$1,000 to recalculate the monthly grant; and a one-time General Fund cost of \$276,000 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:** Add a co-author and authorize California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to implement and administer the bill's provisions through all-county letters or similar instructions, as specified, until regulations are adopted.

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