
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 890 (Lee) - Nonminor dependents: county of residence

Version: July 3, 2025

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 18, 2025

Policy Vote: HUMAN S. 5 - 0, JUD. 13 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: AB 890 would revise the residency requirements placed upon nonminor dependents (NMDs), as specified.

Fiscal Impact:

- The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) estimates costs of \$937,000 (\$907,000 General Fund and \$30,000 federal funds) in 2026-27 and \$112,000 (\$82,000 General Fund and \$30,000 federal funds) ongoing thereafter, which reflects increased workload for county workers and a one-time cost of \$825,000 for adding new data fields to the current automation system.
- Unknown, potential ongoing costs to courts for increased workload (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund). Although courts are not funded on the basis of workload, increased pressure on staff time and resources may create a need for increased funding for courts from the General Fund to perform existing duties.

Background: Current law permits a youth to remain in extended foster care from the age of 18 until they reach 21 years of age; these young adults are known as “NMDs.” Current law provides that the residence of an NMD is determined by the following rules:

- The NMD’s county of residence will initially be dictated by their county of residence when they were a minor subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, as specified.
- If an NMD under the dependency jurisdiction or transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court is placed in a planned permanent living arrangement, as defined, the county in which the NMD is living may be deemed the county of residence, if and when the NMD has had a continuous physical presence in the county for one year as an NMD and the NMD expresses their intent to remain in that county.
- If the NMD’s dependency jurisdiction has been resumed, or transition jurisdiction assumed or resumed by the juvenile court that retained jurisdiction, as specified, pursuant to a petition to resume jurisdiction, the county in which the NMD is living at the time the petition was filed may be deemed the county of residence, if and when the NMD establishes that they have had a continuous physical presence in the county for one year and has expressed their intent to remain in that county.

Since the NMD must have lived in the county for a full year before jurisdiction can be transferred, this means that when the NMD moves to another county, the NMD must return to their former county of residence for hearings (or appear remotely) while they wait out the one-year residency period.

Proposed Law: Specific provisions of the bill would:

- Require a court to consider whether an NMD requests the transfer of jurisdiction to a new county in all of the following circumstances:
 - At an NMD's regular review hearings.
 - For an NMD whose case plan is continued court-ordered family reunification services, as specified, when the court determines that the NMD cannot safely reside in the home of the parent or guardian.
 - For an NMD who is no longer receiving reunification services and is in a permanent plan of another planned permanent living arrangement, at the review hearing held every six months, as part of the inquiry relating to the progress being made to provide permanent connections with caring, committed adults.
- Provide that the residence of the NMD may also be changed to another county if the court finds that the NMD requests the transfer of jurisdiction to a new county and the court finds that the transfer is in the best interest of the NMD; and require that a court issuing an order to transfer the case pursuant to this provision must issue the order within 30 calendar days of the NMD's request.
- Require a court, when determining whether a transfer of jurisdiction to a new county is in the best interest of the NMD, to consider all relevant information, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - Whether the transfer would enhance the NMD's access to services.
 - The position of the social worker and, if applicable, the probation officer.
 - Whether the NMD would qualify as a resident of the new county, as specified.
 - Whether the NMD has established significant connections to the new county through employment or independent contracting, through enrollment in an educational or vocational program, through obtaining housing, or through establishing family or other supportive connections in the new county, including relationships that provide emotional or social support to the NMD, such as relationships with family members, mentors, close friends, or community ties, such as being a member of a religious congregation or a nonprofit organization.
 - Whether the NMD is involved in a separate dependency case as a parent in the new county.
- Require that if the court issues an order to transfer the case, the new county must be deemed to have jurisdiction over the NMD within 10 calendar days of the issuance of the order.

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