
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 969 (Celeste Rodriguez) - CalWORKs: family violence option and gender-based violence information

Version: June 26, 2025

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 29, 2025

Policy Vote: HUMAN S. 5 - 0

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: AB 969 would make several changes to provisions of the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program related to family violence.

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

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

Fiscal Impact:

- Unknown ongoing General Fund costs due to an increase in months of benefits provided.
- Unknown General Fund costs for automation.
- No fiscal impact to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for state administration.
- Unknown costs to counties for administration. Cost to counties would be potentially reimbursable by the state, subject to a determination by the Commission on State Mandates.

Author Amendments:

- Require CDSS protocols to specify how counties must issue timely and adequate notice of action when discontinuing a waiver that includes the specific reason(s) for termination.
- Provide that waivers of time limits granted under the bill's provisions cannot be implemented if federal statutes or regulations clarify that abuse victims are included in the 20-percent hardship exemptions and that no good cause waivers of the 20-percent limit will be granted to the state for victims of abuse, thereby incurring a penalty to the state.
- Provide that waivers of the work requirements granted under the bill's provisions cannot be implemented if federal statutes or regulations clarify that the state will be penalized for failing to meet work participation requirements due to granting waivers to abuse victims.

- Provide that the recipient's attestation regarding the impact of compliance with the program rule is sufficient to issue a waiver unless the county determines the statement is not credible because of the recipient's contradictory statements or other supporting documentation.

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