
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

SB 1190 (Grove) - Safe Passage for Youth Act

Version: April 13, 2026

Policy Vote: HUMAN S. 4 - 0, PUB. S. 6 - 0

Urgency: No

Mandate: No

Hearing Date: May 4, 2026

Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: SB 1190 would require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to license and regulate youth transportation companies, as defined.

Fiscal Impact:

- Unknown ongoing General Fund costs, likely hundreds of thousands, for the CDSS for state administration.
- The Department of Justice indicates no significant fiscal impact for enforcement activities.
- Unknown, potential cost pressures to the courts related to additional enforcement mechanisms provided in this measure (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund). While the courts are not funded on a workload basis, an increase in workload could result in delayed court services and would put pressure on the General Fund to fund additional staff and resources.

Background: Current law provides that CDSS is responsible for licensing various facilities that serve as residential programs for children. These facilities include, but are not limited to:

- Community Treatment Facility (CTF): A CTF provides mental health treatment services to children in a group setting and has the capacity to provide secure containment.
- Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP): An STRTP is a residential facility that provides an integrated program of specialized and intensive care and supervision, services and supports, treatment, and short-term, 24-hour care and supervision to children that is trauma-informed.
- Children's Crisis Residential Program: These programs are licensed as a STRTP and approved by the Department of Health Care Services, or a county mental health plan to which the State Department of Health Care Services has delegated approval authority, to operate a children's crisis residential mental health program to serve children experiencing mental health crises as an alternative to psychiatric hospitalization.

- Private Alternative Boarding School: These programs provide youth with 24-hour residential care and supervision, that, in addition to providing educational services to youth, provides, or holds itself out as providing, behavioral-based services to youth with social, emotional, or behavioral issues.

Proposed Law: Specific provisions of the bill would:

- Define “youth transportation company” to mean a business entity that transports a minor to a residential treatment program, therapeutic boarding school, wilderness program, behavioral modification program, or other residential youth placement.
- Require CDSS to license and regulate youth transportation companies operating in California and permit specified entities to be exempt from licensure.
- Allow CDSS to review, suspend, or revoke a license under specified circumstances.
- Impose requirements and limitations on youth transportation companies, as specified.
- Provide that the Attorney General may bring an action in superior court if a youth transportation company fails to obtain licensure or engages in repeated or egregious violations; provide that the Attorney General may seek the recovery of civil penalties, and be entitled to specific performance, injunctive relief, and other equitable remedies a court deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, an order prohibiting the company from operating within the state; and provide that the Attorney General is entitled to recover attorney’s fees and costs incurred in remedying each violation.

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