(**Without Reference to File**)

SENATE THIRD READING
SB 152 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review)
As Amended June 26, 2026
Majority vote Budget Bill Appropriations Take Effect Immediately

SUMMARY

This is the Human Services Omnibus Trailer Bill, which includes statutory changes related to the 2026-27 Budget Act.

Major Provisions
This bill does the following:

1) Allows the Department of Finance (DOF), if the necessary data is unavailable, to make a calculation related to cost of living or annual adjustment factors. Permits DOF to use a reasonable estimate of that data to perform the calculation.

2) Authorizes users of information technology systems and services under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Social Services (DSS) Community Care Licensing Division to use electronic signatures and to electronically pay any fee or civil penalties assessed by DSS. Requires a user who elects to make an electronic payment to be responsible for any associated payment processing costs. Authorizes DSS to adopt, amend, or repeal any rules and regulations that may be necessary or proper to carry out these provisions.

3) Authorizes, beginning July 1, 2026, the appropriation of General Fund moneys to help support the Home Care Services licensing program, along with fee revenues. Deletes the provision concerning the repayment of the General Fund loan for initial costs.

4) Makes various changes, commencing January 1, 2029, to transition license renewal for home care organizations from every two years to annually. Establishes the initial license fee as $5,603. Establishes, until January 1, 2029, the two-year license renewal fee as $5,603 and, beginning January 1, 2029, establishes the annual license fee as $2,802. Establishes, beginning January 1, 2029, a late fee, a payment processing fee, and a fee for monitoring a licensee on probation.

5) Extends the requirement for DSS to adopt regulations from on or before January 1, 2026 or on or before January 1, 2028, to require biennial inspections to ensure that licensed home care organizations possess specified policies.

6) Requires DSS to submit and post on its internet website an evaluation report for the California Guaranteed Income Pilot Program (GIPP) by no later than June 1, 2028. Additionally extends the sunset for the GIPP from January 1, 2028 to January 1, 2029, and would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2030.

7) Prohibits funds deposited and investment returns accrued in a Federal Children′s Savings Accounts, or ″Trump″ account, from being considered as income or assets when determining eligibility and benefit amount for any means-tested program until an account beneficiary withdraws or transfers the funds from the account. Makes these provisions operative on July

1, 2026, or on the date that DSS notifies the Legislature that the California Statewide Automated Welfare System or the California Automated Response and Engagement System (CWS-CARES) can perform the necessary automation to implement these provisions, whichever date is later.

8) Approves a match waiver for the CalFresh program, capping the amount that a county is required to contribute during the 2026–27 to 2028–29 fiscal years, inclusive, to the lower of the amount the county expended in its contribution in the 2024–25 fiscal year or the amount the county was required to contribute to receive its full allocation of General Fund moneys under the Budget Act of 2024, and would require the county to receive the full General Fund allocation for administration of CalFresh once the county has reached that amount. Make those provisions inoperative on July 1, 2030, and would repeal them as of January 1, 2031.

9) Requires, commencing October 1, 2027, or once the Statewide Automated Welfare System can perform specified automation activities, that CalFresh and California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) overissuance claims arising out of the same error or intentional program violation be recovered through minimum allotment reductions consecutively by program.

10) Requires DSS to utilize certain information that is necessary to assess performance of, monitor the efficacy and impact of administrative funding of, facilitate technical assistance with county welfare departments related to, and inform the public about service delivery in, the CalFresh program. Requires county welfare departments and the California Statewide Automated Welfare System Consortium to provide the information and access to necessary data identified by DSS within 60 days, unless an extension is provided pursuant to a consultation with county and labor representatives that is required on information and processes under this requirement.

11) Increases, commencing October 1, 2026, the maximum aid payments in effect on July 1, 2026, by 1.8 percent for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, under which each county provides cash assistance and other benefits to qualified low-income families using federal, state, and county funds.

12) Shifts the timing of the administrative reassessments for the CalWORKs and the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) programs so that only one program is reassessed each year. Under current law, both the CalWORKs and CalFresh reassessments are due in the 2027-28 fiscal year. Instead, requires the next CalWORKs reassessment to occur in 2028-29 and every third fiscal year thereafter and requires the next IHSS reassessment to occur in 2029-30 and every third fiscal year thereafter.

13) Requires, beginning July 1, 2026, a county that has not reached a collective bargaining agreement with the employee organization for its IHSS providers after the release of the factfinding panel′s recommended settlement terms released prior to June 30, 2026, to have 90 days to reach an agreement with the employee organization. If no agreement is reached within 90 days, requires a withholding of specified 1991 Realignment funds to occur on October 1, 2026.

14) Revises the date for the California Department of Aging to take various actions, including, among others, revising the intrastate funding formula for area agencies on aging, identifying older adult and family caregiver support programs and services, and developing a statewide consumer engagement plan, from no later than September 30, 2026 to no later than September 30, 2027.

15) Authorizes DSS, and conforms statute, to issue all-county letters or similar written instructions to implement, interpret, or make specific requirements and protocols to replace cash and nutrition benefits, pending the adoption of regulations by June 30, 2030.

16) Extends the sunset date from January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028 for the California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot Project. The 2026 Budget Act includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $20 million for the California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot Project.

17) Revises current law related to the Stop The Hate program and requires DSS, in consultation with the Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs, to submit an implementation report on March 1, 2027. Removes the provisions relating to administrative costs, as these are captured in provisional language in the budget bill. Makes the remaining provisions inoperative on June 30, 2029, and repeals them as of January 1, 2030. The 2026 Budget Act includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $30 million for the Stop The Hate program.

18) Makes statutory changes to align the definition of immigrant youth eligible for services and authorizes the funding related to social services to support these youth. Requires contracts to provide for legal and social services to immigrant youth. Authorizes the contracts to include administrative and supervisory costs and court fees, as well as client services and requires those contracts to prioritize the provision of social services to eligible immigrant youth, either directly or through partnerships, as specified.

19) Establishes, upon an appropriation by the Legislature, the Tribal Foster Care Prevention Initiative to provide state funding to assist any federally recognized Indian tribe located in California, or with lands that extend into California, in funding the costs associated with services aimed at preserving families and preventing the entry of children into foster care. Requires a federally recognized Indian tribe that seeks funding for this purpose to submit an annual letter of interest to DSS by May 1 of each year. Requires DSS, subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act for this purpose, to provide each federally recognized Indian tribe that enters into a specified agreement and submits a letter of interest an annual allocation. Requires a federally recognized Indian tribe that receives funds to submit a progress report regarding specified information, including the number of Indian children and their families served, to DSS on or before September 30 following the close of the fiscal year in which funding was received. The 2026 Budget Act includes an on-going General Fund appropriation of $2.4 million for the Tribal Foster Care Prevention Initiative.

20) Revises and recasts, commencing January 1, 2028, provisions governing payment of Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) benefits on behalf of a child residing in an in-state, out-of-home placement by, in part, only permitting these payments if the child is residing in a licensed short-term residential therapeutic program (STRTP) and limiting authorization to a 12-month cumulative period of time, subject to an extension of a one-time 6-month cumulative period of time. Authorizes, commencing January 1, 2028, benefits to be paid on behalf of an otherwise eligible child for wraparound services in lieu of an out-of-home placement if, among other things, the responsible public agency has confirmed that the wraparound services are necessary. Permits the authorization of payment for wraparound services for a 12-month cumulative period of time, and permits consecutive reauthorizations of these services.

21) Prohibits the AAP rate for an in-state, out-of-home placement funded by AAP, or for wraparound services funded by AAP, from exceeding the rate paid for a foster care placement

in a STRTP, or, until the three components of the Tiered Rate Structure (TRS) become operative and the Legislature makes an appropriation for that purpose, and instead prohibits the AAP payment rate from exceeding the sum of the three components of the TRS.

22) Requires DSS to develop, and distribute to counties, a curriculum, no later than January 1, 2028, that includes, at a minimum, education on maintaining AAP benefits, adolescent development and trauma, the importance of maintaining Medi-Cal, the benefits of using adoption-competent clinicians, and how to secure trauma-informed services. Requires DSS to consult with county placing agencies and community partners in the development of this curriculum.

23) Requires DSS, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature for these purposes, to, directly, or through contract with a service provider, ensure transition support services are made available to adoptive families, and requires the responsible public agency to refer the family to postpermanency services at the local level to support the adoptive family in navigating postpermanency services. Requires DSS, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature for these purposes, to interview adoptive parents who agree to submit the information regarding the reason an out-of-state placement was necessary and the current status of their adoptive children who returned to California on or after July 1, 2025, and requires DSS to submit a report on this to the Legislature.

24) Clarifies that the Ombudsperson of the Office of Youth and Community Restoration may privately communicate or meet with any youth individually or in a group and specifies permitted equipment that the ombudsperson may use in these communications or meetings.

25) Specifies that the copy of the rights and responsibilities provided to youth in juvenile facilities, their parents or guardians, or otherwise displayed in juvenile facilities is required to be designed and provided by the Ombudsperson of the Office of Youth and Community Restoration.

26) Appropriates $344,000 from the General Fund to DSS for the 2026–27 fiscal year for the purpose of implementing CalFresh transparency initiatives, and would make these funds available for encumbrance or expenditure until September 30, 2029.

27) Declares that this bill is to take effect immediately as a bill providing for appropriations related to the Budget Bill.

COMMENTS

This bill enacts statutory changes that will enable and govern appropriations for Human Services programs funded in the 2026 Budget Act.

According to the Author
None on file.

Arguments in Support
None on file.

Arguments in Opposition
None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

This bill enacts statutory changes that will enable and govern appropriations for Human Services programs funded in the 2026 Budget Act.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2
YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares
ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: June 26, 2026

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