

Date of Hearing: July 15, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Alex Lee, Chair

SB 761 (Ashby) – As Amended July 10, 2025

SENATE VOTE: 39-0

SUBJECT: CalFresh: student eligibility

SUMMARY: Requires the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) to update its Grant Delivery System to identify students eligible for CalFresh. Enables students to opt in to share their contact information with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for direct outreach regarding CalFresh benefits, and requires data-sharing agreements between CDSS, campuses, and counties to support targeted CalFresh outreach starting in the 2027-28 academic year. Designates campus-based programs at public colleges as state-approved job training programs for CalFresh eligibility. Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Requires CSAC, upon entering into a data-sharing agreement and in compliance with state and federal laws, to amend CSAC’s Grant Delivery System to ensure both of the following:
 - a) CSAC is able to identify students that might be eligible for the CalFresh program; and,
 - b) Students identified pursuant to a) above, are able to provide permission to CSAC for their contact information to be shared with CDSS, and for CDSS to further share their contact information with county human services agencies and public postsecondary education institutions, for purposes of direct outreach about the CalFresh program.
- 2) Requires CSAC, upon completion of 1) above, to provide CDSS with information for students who have granted their permission to have their contact information shared, pursuant to a data-sharing agreement, as described in 12) through 16) below.
- 3) Defines, for the purpose of this bill, “contact information” to include, but not be limited to, the legal name, email address, physical address, and telephone number of the student.
- 4) Repeals existing law, Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 18901.12, which requires CDSS to issue guidance and establish a certification process for campus-based programs to qualify as state-approved local educational programs that increase employability (LPIE) for CalFresh student exemptions. Further repeals the annual legislative reporting requirement on program approvals, denials, and pending applications through 2030.
- 5) Requires, commencing on or before July 1, 2026, to the extent permitted by federal law and regulations, any campus-based program of study at a public higher education institution to be considered an LPIE for CalFresh eligibility, if the program has employment and training (E&T) components similar to those listed in federal regulations described in existing law in 12) below.
- 6) Requires the office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges (CCC) and the office of the Chancellor of the California State University (CSU), and requests the office of the President of the University of California (UC), to submit to CDSS a list of their offered

campus-based programs of study and for CDSS to approve those programs as qualifying for LPIE for purposes of CalFresh eligibility.

- 7) Authorizes any campus-based program at a campus of the CCC, the CSUs, or the UCs that is not on the list submitted by the public higher education institutions described in 6) above, or that is rejected by CDSS pursuant to 6) above, to submit a certification application to CDSS, and requires CDSS to approve the certification applications for campus-based programs that have E&T components similar to those listed in federal regulations.
- 8) Requires CDSS, on or before September 1, 2026, and annually thereafter until 2030, to report to the Assembly Committee on Higher Education, the Assembly Committee on Human Services, the Senate Committee on Education, and the Senate Committee on Human Services all of the following information:
 - a) The number of state-approved campus-based LPIE programs that are approved pursuant to 6) and 7) above, disaggregated by name and campus;
 - b) The number of pending applications, disaggregated by name and campus; and,
 - c) The number of applications denied, disaggregated by name and campus, and the reason for the denials.
- 9) Requires CDSS to post the report in 8) above, on its website.
- 10) Requires CDSS, notwithstanding the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, to implement and administer 5) above through 11) below, through all-county letters or similar instructions that have the same force and effect as regulations.
- 11) Requires CDSS, on or before May 31, 2026, to issue a guidance letter to the office of the Chancellor of the CCC, the office of the Chancellor of the CSU, and the office of the President of the UC that notifies them of the changes made.
- 12) Requires CDSS and CSAC to develop a data-sharing agreement meeting the requirements of applicable state and federal law and regulations, under which CSAC shall share the student information, as described, with CDSS for purposes of providing direct outreach to students about the CalFresh program.
- 13) Authorizes CDSS, pursuant to the data agreement established in 12) above, to share the student information with each county human services agency, the office of the Chancellor of the CCC, the office of the Chancellor of the CSU, and the office of the President of the UC for purposes of direct outreach to students about the CalFresh program.
- 14) Requires, commencing with the 2027-28 academic year, and only if data has been shared by CDSS pursuant to 13) above, each campus of the CCC and the CSU, and requests each campus of the UC to contact all students who have opted in to have their contact information shared with CDSS, for purposes of informing students about the CalFresh program and services available on and off campus to assist the student in applying for the food benefits.
- 15) Requires data shared pursuant to 12) through 14) above, be done in compliance with applicable federal and state laws to protect individual privacy, including, but not limited to,

the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) described in existing law in 13) below, and the state Information Protections Act (IPA) of 1977 described in existing law in 8) below.

- 16) Requires, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this bill contains costs mandated by the state, the state to reimburse the applicable entities.

EXISTING LAW:

State law:

- 1) Establishes access to sufficient, affordable, and healthy food as a human right and requires state agencies and departments to consider this state policy when it is pertinent to the distribution of sufficient affordable food. (WIC § 18700)
- 2) Establishes the CalFresh program to administer the provision of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to families and individuals meeting certain criteria, as specified. (WIC § 18900 *et seq.*)
- 3) Requires CDSS to issue a guidance letter on the eligibility requirements for a campus-based program to become an LPIE for the purpose of qualifying students for CalFresh. Requires qualifying campus-based programs of the CCC and the CSU and requests qualifying campus-based programs of the UC, to apply to become LPIE by September 1, 2022. Requires CDSS to issue a report annually on or before September 1, 2023, until 2030 regarding the progress of approving campus-based LPIE programs, as specified. (WIC § 18901.12)
- 4) Defines “student” to mean an individual who is enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher education. Requires a person to be determined to be enrolled in an institution of higher education if the individual is enrolled, as an undergraduate or graduate student, in a business, technical, trade, or vocational school that normally requires a high school diploma or equivalency certificate for enrollment in the curriculum, as specified. (WIC § 18901.11(e))
- 5) Permits CDSS to identify data-sharing opportunities with state and local entities for the purpose of improving the administration of CalFresh, increasing CalFresh participation, measuring the impact of CalFresh, and increasing access to critical health and poverty-alleviating services. Permits as permissible by state and federal law, for the following entities to share data with CDSS:
 - a) Public entities related to health and human services;
 - b) Public entities related to education and early childhood programs, including, but not limited to: the California Department of Education, UC, CSU, and CCC;
 - c) Public entities related to employment and financial well-being;
 - d) Public entities related to shelter, utilities, housing, and homelessness;
 - e) Public entities related to justice-involved individuals; and,
 - f) Public entities related to services for veterans. (WIC § 18901.59(a-b))

- 6) Requires each campus of the CCC and the CSU and requests the UC, independent and private universities, as defined, to identify and conduct email outreach to students who may be income eligible for CalFresh based on their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). (Education Code [EDC] § 66023.6)
- 7) Requires CSAC to notify a student of their eligibility for CalFresh if the student's Cal Grant included Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) funds. Requires CSAC, to the extent permissible by federal laws, to use information to determine a student's CalFresh eligibility and to then notify the student of their eligibility. (EDC § 69519.3)
- 8) Establishes the IPA of 1977, enumerating the requirements applicable to state agencies that collect, maintain, and disclose personal information from California residents, including limitations on permissible disclosure, the rights of residents to know and access the information, and required accounting of disclosures of the information. (Civil Code § 1798 *et seq.*)

Federal law:

- 9) Establishes SNAP pursuant to the Food Stamp Act of 1964. (7 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 2011 *et seq.*)
- 10) Restricts any individual who is enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher education from qualifying for SNAP benefits, unless the individual qualifies for an exception, as specified. (7 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] § 273.5(a))
- 11) Clarifies that a college student, enrolled at least part-time, may qualify for SNAP nutritional benefits if they are:
 - a) Over 50 years of age or under 17 years of age;
 - b) Physically or mentally unfit;
 - c) Receiving TANF under Title IV of the Social Security Act;
 - d) Enrolled in a Job Opportunities and Basic Skills program under Title IV of the Social Security Act or its successor program;
 - e) Employed for a minimum of 20 hours per week and are paid to the equivalent of the Federal minimum wage for 20 hours of work per week;
 - f) Participating in a State or federally financed work study program during the regular school year;
 - g) Participating in an on-the-job training program;
 - h) Responsible for the care of a child under six years of age;
 - i) Responsible for the care of a child between six and 12 years of age when adequate child care is not available to enable the student to work 20 hours a week;
 - j) A single parent enrolled full-time and is responsible for a child under 12 years of age; or,

- k) Enrolled in a program associated with the Job Training Partnership Act of 1974; an E&T program funded by Carl Perkins and Technical Education Act of 2006, as defined; a program associated with the Trade Act of 1974, as defined; or an E&T program for low-income households operated by the State or local government. (7 CFR § 273.5(b))
- 12) Defines E&T components that states can include in their SNAP E&T programs. These components must involve at least one of the following:
- a) Structured job search conducted at approved locations with direct supervision;
 - b) Job search training, including instruction that improves participants' job-seeking skills, linked to job-readiness;
 - c) Workfare or work experience, such as paid or unpaid employment in public or private organizations;
 - d) Supported work programs, like on-the-job employment with support services;
 - e) Educational programs with activities such as basic literacy or job-readiness skills training; and,
 - f) Job retention services that provide support to help participants keep their jobs. (7 CFR § 273.7(e)(2); 7 CFR § 273.5(b)(11)(iv))
- 13) Establishes FERPA, which governs the privacy and access rights of student education records. (20 U.S.C. § 1232g)

FISCAL EFFECT: According to the Senate Committee on Appropriations on May 23, 2025:

- The Department of Social Services (DSS) estimates additional, unknown administrative costs to the extent it needs to develop a spreadsheet list or form to manually update and provide to the Basic Needs Services Center or county liaison on each college campus or county welfare department office. The DSS also indicates there would be ongoing costs for contracts to conduct outreach campaigns and for automation to determine whether students referred to DSS for CalFresh are already receiving aid, and additional, unknown costs to automate the process to share a Cal Grant applicant's information from the CSAC.
- The CSAC indicates that by removing some barriers for college students to access CalFresh benefits, this bill could result in an increase in the millions of dollars in federal funds to help students at institutions of higher education pay for food costs.
- The University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) indicate that any costs resulting from this bill would be minor and absorbable.

COMMENTS:

Background: *College Student Hunger.* College students are especially vulnerable to hunger and food insecurity, as consistently shown by recent data. A June 2024 report from the United States (U.S.) Government Accountability Office found that 23% of college students nationwide experience hunger. In California, a May 2023 survey by CSAC revealed that 66% of college

students reported being food insecure, which is an increase of more than 25% since the 2018-19 academic year. A January 2025 report from UCLA's Center for Health Policy Research found that 77% of CCC students, 53% of CSU students, and 42% of UC students surveyed identified as food insecure.

Campus reports from 2025 further underscore these findings. In its statutorily required annual report *Basic Needs Services Center Report* published in May 2025, the CCC Chancellor's Office reported that 82,768 students accessed basic needs centers for food support during spring 2024. On April 4, 2025, the CSU Chancellor's Office published its statutorily required report on *Student Mental Health and Basic Needs Initiatives Report for the 2023-2024 academic year* and reported that 79,392 students received food services, including 35,962 who received help with CalFresh applications. At the UC system, 73,623 students were served by basic needs centers between July 2023 and June 2024, as reported by the *Basic Needs, Mental Health, and Repaid Rehousing* report published on February 1, 2025. A March 2025 report published by the UC titled the *Basic Needs Annual Report to the UC Regents of the UC* noted that 40,593 UC students used campus food pantries and 17,291 submitted a CalFresh application.

CalFresh. SNAP (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program) is the largest federal food safety-net program that serves as the first line of defense against hunger and food insecurity for low-income households. In California, federal SNAP funds are administered through the CalFresh program. Overseen by CDSS and administered locally by county human services agencies, CalFresh serves a large and diverse caseload, with substantial shares comprising low-income working families with children, elderly and disabled people, and low-income individuals with barriers to employment. Participants use Electronic Benefits Transfer cards to purchase eligible food items such as fruits and vegetables, meat, dairy products, and seeds and plants that produce food at authorized retailers, including grocery stores, supermarkets, and farmers' markets.

The United States Department of Agriculture establishes the gross and net income requirements for CalFresh eligibility, limiting California's flexibility in setting its own criteria. If a family passes the gross income test, the net income test is computed, and the amount is determined by deducting certain income from a household's gross income. Currently, the maximum allowable gross income is 200% of the federal poverty level, although households with elderly members or members with disabilities are not subject to gross income criteria. Effective October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, the maximum annual gross income for a household size of three is \$33,576.

CalFresh plays a critical role in reducing food insecurity in California. Research shows that SNAP reduces overall food insecurity by about 20% and reduces food insecurity among children by approximately 33%. Despite its improved outcomes, eligibility criteria differ for students, who must meet specific additional requirements to qualify for CalFresh benefits.

College Student Access to CalFresh. The federal student eligibility rule, enacted in 1977, restricts students in higher education from accessing SNAP benefits. The federal and state definition of a "student" for CalFresh purposes applies to individuals who are between 18 and 49 years of age, physically and mentally fit for work, and enrolled at least half-time, which is based on their institution's definition, at a qualifying institution of higher education. This includes postsecondary business, trade, technical, or vocational schools, as well as community colleges, universities, or graduate schools. Students who meet this definition are generally ineligible for CalFresh unless they qualify for an exemption. To be exempt, a student must meet one of the 11

secondary eligibility requirements, as described in federal regulations in 11) above in existing law, including participating in an E&T program.

A UCLA-CSU Fresno survey on student food access found that 30% of CCC students, 22% of CSU students, and 30% of UC students reported using CalFresh. An April 2025 report by the California Policy Lab on CalFresh participation during and after high school found that 36.7% of students eligible in high school remained eligible in their first year of college, but 60% of those likely eligible did not enroll. Eligibility rates also varied by education system, with UC students more likely to be eligible than CCC students.

Many students mistakenly believe they do not qualify due to complex verification requirements. A UCLA Center for Policy Research SNAP report found that 45% of food-insecure students had heard of CalFresh, but never used it and 28% cited lack of knowledge about how to apply as a main barrier. As of April 2025, 203,268 students were receiving CalFresh according to the CDSS CalFresh Student Data dashboard. That month, 9,786 were approved and 12,673 denied. The most common eligibility factor was enrollment in an E&T program, while the most frequent reason for denial was missing the required interview.

Research shows that CalFresh significantly reduces students' financial burdens. A 2025 Public Policy Institute of California report found that CalFresh reduces out-of-pocket college costs by about 50% for UC and CSU students living on campus and by 24% for CCC students living off campus. CalFresh enrollment is particularly high among low-income students receiving financial aid, especially Pell Grant recipients. A February 2025 report by the California Policy Lab found that from fall 2019 to fall 2021, CCC students' average per-person monthly benefits nearly doubled, from \$123 to \$245. For UC undergraduates, average per-person monthly benefits increased from \$161 to \$303. This translates to roughly \$1,500-\$3,600 a year that participating students can use to pay for food.

CalFresh Eligibility Notification to College Students. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, federal and state efforts have expanded to increase CalFresh participation among college students. Under the FAFSA Simplification Act of 2021, Congress authorized state grant agencies and higher education institutions to use FAFSA data to support targeted outreach. In July 2024, the U.S. Department of Education's Federal Student Aid Office issued a "Dear Colleague Letter" with guidance on using this data to inform students of their potential eligibility for social services like CalFresh.

California has also enacted several laws to boost student outreach, including, but not limited to:

- AB 543 (Davies), Chapter 561, Statutes of 2021: Required CCC and CSU campuses, and encourages UC campuses, to provide CalFresh materials during student orientations;
- AB 2810 (Arambula), Chapter 934, Statutes of 2022: Required CCC and CSU campuses, and requested UC, private, and independent institutions, to conduct CalFresh outreach using FAFSA data; and,
- AB 214 (Weber), Chapter 314, Statutes of 2017: Required CSAC to notify Cal Grant recipients who may be eligible for CalFresh.

According to the Assembly Higher Education Committee analysis, students already receive eligibility notices from CSAC and their schools. *This bill* would add a new channel for students to receive CalFresh eligibility notifications directly from CDSS. In support of these goals, the CCC Chancellor's Office is working with CDSS to develop a state-level data-sharing agreement to improve CalFresh administration. Additionally, two community colleges have established local data-sharing agreements with county human services agencies to enhance benefit delivery to students.

This bill aims to improve college student access to CalFresh by requiring CSAC to identify potentially eligible students and enable them to opt in to share their contact information with CDSS for targeted outreach. *This bill* further requires data-sharing agreements between CSAC, CDSS, the three segments of public higher education institutions, and county human services agencies, and requires participating campuses to conduct outreach starting in the 2027-28 academic year.

Local Educational Programs that Increase Employability. In All County Letter No. 22-46 (June 2022), CDSS defines LPIEs as a program operated by a state or local government where at least one component aligns with a federally recognized E&T activity under SNAP regulations. Qualifying components include adult basic education, career and technical education, English language acquisition, work readiness training, and work experience; supervised job search; work experience like apprenticeships and campus employment; and, self-employment training. CDSS retains the authority to determine whether a program qualifies as an LPIE for CalFresh purposes.

Prior to the enactment of AB 396 (Gabriel), Chapter 461, Statutes of 2021, there was no standardized process for approving campus-based LPIEs. Campuses or county human services agencies would individually submit programs to CDSS for consideration. AB 396 established a uniform approval process across California's public higher education systems, including CCC, CSU, and the UC, allowing these systems to submit eligible programs directly to CDSS for designation as LPIEs.

Following AB 396, the three public higher education systems identified two broad categories of programs commonly qualifying as LPIEs, including Campus Employment Programs, which are programs where students are employed by the college or an auxiliary organization in roles tied to their field of study; and, Research and Teaching Assistantships, which are positions in which students are formally hired as research or teaching assistants as part of their academic and professional development.

To support implementation, CDSS issued guidance to campuses outlining how educational programs could meet the federal E&T requirements and qualify as LPIEs. As of June 2025, CDSS has approved 9,391 CCC programs, 2,472 CSU programs, and 1,507 UC programs as qualifying LPIEs for CalFresh eligibility.

This bill aims to simplify and expand the process for recognizing campus-based programs at CCC, CSU, and the UC as LPIEs, making them eligible for the CalFresh student exemption. *This bill* requires each higher education system to submit a list of programs for CDSS approval. Programs not initially included may still apply for certification. Furthermore, *this bill* requires CDSS to report annually to the Legislature through 2030 on program approvals and denials. Additional provisions include privacy safeguards for shared data, and a requirement for CDSS to issue implementation guidance.

Author’s Statement: According to the Author, “Many college students, especially those from low income backgrounds are unable to access fresh meals. Half of California’s college students experience food insecurity. Students are eligible for CalFresh, but fewer than 25% actually receive benefits.

“[This bill] addresses food access by streamlining CalFresh benefits. This bill would require the California Student Aid Commission to notify students of their potential eligibility for CalFresh. [This bill] further addresses the issue of food insecurity by broadening the programs of study that increase eligibility for CalFresh. [This bill] ensures greater access to food assistance for all California college students.”

Equity Implications: Food insecurity disproportionately affects students of color, parenting students, former foster youth, and first-generation college students, many of whom may be unaware they qualify for CalFresh or struggle to navigate a complex eligibility process. By enabling CSAC to identify potentially eligible students and allowing those students to opt in to have their contact information shared with CDSS, *this bill* aims to facilitate targeted outreach that helps bridge this access gap.

This bill also aims to standardize how public colleges and universities across the state identify and certify programs that qualify students for CalFresh under the LPIE exemption, which may eliminate inconsistencies between campuses and systems that have created unequal access to food assistance. Furthermore, by recognizing a wide range of academic programs as pathways to employment, *this bill* may expand the pool of eligible CalFresh students.

Lastly, *this bill* includes privacy protections by requiring data sharing to comply with federal and state privacy laws, including FERPA and IPA of 1977, and by giving students the choice to opt in. This approach considers students’ privacy while enhancing access to vital basic needs supports.

Policy Considerations: The current language of the bill allows student contact information to be shared with “permission,” which may be interpreted broadly and could lead to inconsistent practices across institutions.

Should this bill move forward, the Author may wish to consider strengthening this provision by requiring students to provide their “meaningful and informed consent” as a distinct and separate request to ensure students fully understand what information will be shared, with whom, and for what purpose. The Author has agreed to continue working on language that addresses this consideration.

This bill is unspecific about the data sharing limitations purpose of sharing student contact information by omitting “sole purpose” and instead allows information to be shared for the purpose of direct outreach about the CalFresh program. This may simultaneously allow for information shared beyond the intention of the bill and inadvertently prevent students from accessing the full range of basic needs beyond food assistance alone.

Should this bill move forward, the Author may wish to consider clearly stating the sole purpose of information sharing while clearly stating the appropriate programs that should receive personal information.

This bill aims to streamline access to CalFresh by allowing student information to be shared, with the student's permission, among CSAC, CDSS, campuses, and counties. However, as currently drafted, the language requires CSAC to share contact information with all CCCs, CSU and UC campuses, and all 58 county human services agencies.

Should this bill move forward, the Author may wish to consider narrowing the scope of data sharing to only the campus the student attends and the county where they reside for purposes of data minimization and to protect student privacy.

Additionally, while this bill defines "contact information" broadly using the phrase, "including, but not limited to," this could unintentionally allow for the disclosure of sensitive data, such as immigration status or other personal identifiers.

Should this bill move forward, the Author may wish to clarify that shared contact information be limited to the name, phone number, email, and zip code or county of residence of the student.

This bill raises concerns about data sharing and privacy, particularly as state and local agencies often maintain partnerships with federal agencies whose policies may not consistently prioritize protections for certain populations like immigrants, or the safeguarding of sensitive information. This bill also fails to ensure students are knowingly opting in to share such sensitive information by simply stating the student has to provide permission. Providing permission may result in students unintentionally sharing their information.

Should this bill move forward, the Author may wish to consider adding a provision that limits shared student data, with meaningful and informed consent, to use solely for direct CalFresh outreach and to identify, support and link students to on- and off-campus basic needs services and resources, and prohibits sharing with other entities or for other purposes.

This bill requires, beginning July 1, 2026, all campus-based programs at California's public colleges to be recognized as state-approved LPIEs to qualify students for the CalFresh student exemption, if they meet federal regulations, and further requires the CCC and CSU Chancellor's Offices, and requests the UC President's Office, to submit a list of these programs to CDSS for approval. These provisions do not clarify whether previously approved programs retain their LPIE status.

Should this bill move forward, the Author may wish to consider adding a provision that clarifies programs already approved as LPIEs are not required to reapply.

Proposed Committee Amendments: The Committee proposes amendments to address policy considerations stated above to do the following:

- Replace references to student data sharing based on "permission" with "meaningful and informed consent" and have "meaningful and informed consent" be a distinct request.
- Clarify and be explicit the stated sole purpose for sharing student contact information, upon the student's meaningful and informed consent, from conducting direct outreach about the CalFresh program to also include identifying, supporting, and linking students to on- and off-campus basic needs services and resources.

- Narrow the scope of data sharing to only the appropriate public postsecondary education systemwide office of the campus in which the student is enrolled and the county human services agency for the county in which the student resides.
- Clarify that “contact information” shall be limited to only the student’s name, phone number, email address, and zip code or county of residence.
- Add a provision explicitly stating that student data shared with “meaningful and informed consent” shall only be used solely for direct outreach related to CalFresh and identifying, supporting, and linking students to on- and off-campus basic needs services and resources, and shall not be shared with any other entities or used for any other purpose.
- Clarify that any campus-based programs previously approved by CDSS as LPIEs shall retain their approved status and are not required to reapply under the new provisions.

Double referral: This bill was previously heard in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education on July 8, 2025, and was approved on a 10-0 vote.

RELATED AND PRIOR LEGISLATION:

AB 593 (Wicks) of the current legislative session, clarifies that data shared for the purposes of improving the administration of, increasing participation in, and measuring the impact of CalFresh is limited to information necessary for conducting outreach opportunities, facilitating enrollment in public benefits, and measuring the impact of those efforts, and shall not be used for any other purpose. *AB 593 is set to be heard by the Senate Judiciary Committee on July 15, 2025.*

AB 518 (Wicks), Chapter 910, Statutes of 2024, required CDSS, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop a methodology to estimate the CalFresh participation rate in California and identify characteristics of Californians who are eligible for CalFresh benefits, but not receiving benefits. Required CDSS to identify data sharing opportunities with other state and local public entities.

AB 396 (Gabriel), Chapter 461, Statutes of 2022, required CDSS to issue a guidance letter on the eligibility requirements for a campus-based program to become an LPIE for the purpose of qualifying students for CalFresh. Required qualifying campus-based programs of the CCC and the CSU, and requests qualifying campus-based programs of the UC, to apply to become an LPIE by September 1, 2022. Required CDSS to issue a report annually, until 2030, regarding the progress of approving campus-based LPIE, as specified.

AB 1326 (Arambula), Chapter 570, Statutes of 2021, required a county human services agency to designate at least one employee as a staff liaison to serve as a contact for academic counselors and other professional staff at a campus of an institution of public higher education within the county to provide information on available public social services. Required the agency to develop protocols for engagement between the staff liaison and a campus of an institution of public higher education.

SB 20 (Dodd), Chapter 167, Statutes of 2022, changed the CSAC notification and verification process for CalFresh food benefits for postsecondary students.

AB 214 (Weber), Chapter 134, Statutes of 2017, required CSAC to notify Cal Grant recipients who qualify for participation in CalFresh, and required CDSS to maintain a list of programs that provide a student with potential eligibility for a CalFresh exemption if certain requirements are met.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

Alliance for a Better Community (UNREG) (Co-Sponsor)
California Competes: Higher Education for a Strong Economy (Co-Sponsor)
Junior Leagues of California State Public Affairs Committee (CALSPAC) (Co-Sponsor)
Southern California College Attainment Network (Co-Sponsor)
California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office
California Primary Care Association
California Teachers Association
Citrus College
County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
Junior League of Sacramento
Junior League of San Diego
North Orange County Community College District
Student Senate for California Community Colleges
University of California
University of California Student Association
Western Center on Law & Poverty

Opposition

None on file.

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