

Senate Committee on Human Services

**SUMMARY OF
2013 LEGISLATION**

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November 2013

In 2013, the first year of this two-year session, the Senate Human Services Committee reviewed more than 67 bills. Thirty-nine of these bills became law and three were vetoed by the governor. The rest remain pending in Senate or Assembly committees. This year, the Legislature acted to create an employment first policy for individuals with Developmental Disabilities and to implement self-directed services statewide for people in the Developmental Disabilities system. Other new laws strengthen supports for homeless youth by defining runaway and homeless youth shelters, clarifying processes for providing CalFresh benefits to homeless youth and by requiring immediate school enrollment of homeless youth.

The committee held a number of oversight and informational hearings, beginning in March with, “The Real Face of California’s Poor: Interpreting the New Federal Poverty Measure,” held jointly with the Assembly Committee on Human Services. The hearing compared the nation’s traditional poverty measure, created in the mid-1960s, with a newly released Supplemental Poverty Measure tool, which attempts to balance a family’s receipt of tax credits, food and other aid, and child support with costs that otherwise are not considered, such as housing expenses, work-related transportation costs, child care, health care, and others.

In May, the committee held an informational hearing on “Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Minors: Policy Considerations for the Child Welfare System,” which addressed concerns around the recruitment of minors from the foster care system into the sex trade and illuminated the need for collaborative efforts to provide appropriate services. In August, the committee held an oversight hearing on the 2014 - 2015 Community Services Block Grant State Plan, as required by state and federal law.

I would like to thank the members of the Senate Human Services Committee for their diligence in assisting colleagues in both how to craft sound legislation. I am particularly grateful to Senator Tom Berryhill, the committee’s Vice Chair, for his leadership contribution to the committee’s work. The staff of the Senate Human Services Committee prepared this summary of legislation referred to the committee during 2011 and 2012. It includes bills that are now law, bills that were vetoed, and bills that failed passage. Each of the measures cited in this summary is available from several sources:

- Copies of chaptered bills may be requested at no cost from the Legislative Bill Room, State Capitol, Room B-32, Sacramento, CA 95814; (916) 445-2323.
- The Legislative Data Center maintains a Web site where these bills and the committee’s analyses are available: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html>.

Sincerely,

LELAND Y. YEE, PhD, CHAIR
Senate Human Services Committee

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1. Aging and Long-Term Care

SB 609 (Wolk) Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

This bill creates the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program Improvement Act Account into which funds, gifts, contributions to support the operations and programs of the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman shall be deposited. It raises the maximum civil penalty for willful interference with a lawful action of the office from \$1,000 to \$2,500 and requires the Director of Aging to initiate an action within 30 days of the assessment if this penalty is not paid. This bill also establishes the Access to Facilities Account, into which these penalties must be deposited. Funds in this account shall be appropriated for training and travel expense reimbursement for local ombudsman programs. This bill also permits reporting each individual act of willful interference to local law enforcement and the appropriate licensing agency. *Chapter 521, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 781 (Lara) Continuing care contracts.

This bill mandates that a provider of services in a continuing care retirement community who has entered into a Type A contract, as defined, make public an actuarial opinion by posting it online or providing it to a current resident upon request. Current law requires that providers entering into Type A contracts file an actuary's opinion as to the actuarial financial condition of the provider's continuing care operations with the Department of Social Services. *Pending in the Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

AB 261 (Chesbro) Residential care facilities for the elderly: fees and charges.

This bill prohibits Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) from requiring advance notice to terminate an admission agreement upon death of a resident. It prohibits the accrual of any fees once the personal property of a deceased resident is removed. In addition, AB 261 requires that within three days of a patient's death the RCFE provide a written notice of the facility's policies involving contract termination and refunds, as specified. Furthermore, this bill requires RCFEs to refund any fees paid in advance that cover the time after the resident's property has been removed. *Chapter 290, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 477 (Chau) Elder and dependent adult abuse: mandated reporting

This bill included notaries public in the definition of mandated reporters who must report suspected financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult. It required that a notary public, if he or she had observed or had knowledge of suspected financial abuse in connection with providing notary services, to report the known or suspected instance of financial abuse. The bill made this requirement applicable only when the notary public knew that the victim of the suspected financial abuse was an elder or dependent adult. It made the failure to report this abuse subject to civil penalties currently imposed on other mandated reporters, and made such penalties payable by the mandated reporter to the party bringing the action. AB 477 also added notaries public to

the list of other mandated reporters of elder and dependent adult abuse who are immune from criminal or civil liability for making any report that is required or authorized by law. And it exempted financial officers, who are currently mandated reporters under state law, from the notary public provisions. *Vetoed by Governor. Please see the Governor's veto message in section 10.*

AB 620 (Buchanan) Health and care facilities: missing patients and participants

This bill requires all health facilities, community care facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, and adult day health care centers to develop and comply with an absentee notification plan for residents, patients, and participants. It specifies that such plans be limited to: 1) a requirement that facility administrators inform an authorized representative when that resident, patient or participant is missing; and 2) the conditions under which such administrators are to notify local law enforcement that a resident, patient, or participant is missing from the facility. *Chapter 674, Statutes of 2013.*

AJR 7 (Bonta) Social security, Medicare, and Medicaid

This joint resolution of the Assembly and Senate requests that the President and the United States Congress exclude social security, Medicare, and Medicaid from being a part of any legislation to reduce the federal deficit, and states California Legislature's opposition to cuts to these three programs. It also calls on California's representatives to the United States Congress to vote against cuts to social security, Medicare, and Medicaid and to consider improving those systems in ways that would strengthen their protections. *Res. Chapter 35, Statutes of 2013*

2. CalWORKS, CalFresh

SB 134 (Hueso) CalFresh eligibility

This bill requires counties that participate in the CalFresh Employment and Training (E&T) program defer a person from the program who is a veteran who has been honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces. It also requires that veterans who are required to register to work under the CalFresh program and are exempted from mandatory E&T placement be provided with a referral to the local county veteran's service office and to local veterans' assistance and job training agencies, as well as being provided the opportunity to voluntarily participate in the E&T program. *Chapter 283, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 206 (Emmerson) Electronic benefits transfer cards: prohibition of use for alcohol and tobacco purchases

This bill requires that the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system designed to assist recipients of CalFresh and CalWORKs be designed to prevent the purchase of alcohol or tobacco products using EBT cards. *Pending in the Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

SB 252 (Liu) CalWORKs: welfare-to-work requirements

This bill specifies that a pregnant woman who receives California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) benefits, and does not have medical verification of a pregnancy-related illness, shall be considered for other “good cause” exemptions that are applied when an individual can demonstrate that a circumstance or condition temporarily prevents them from participating in welfare-to-work activities. Additionally, it authorizes counties to apply the hours that a woman participates in an approved home visiting program to a recipient’s required work participation hours. The bill also reiterates that breastfeeding is permitted in public places. *Chapter 563, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 283 (Hancock) CalFresh eligibility

This bill removes the prohibition against receive CalFresh benefits to an individual who is convicted in state or federal court of a felony crime with an element of possession, use or distribution of a controlled substance, as defined. Existing law permits eligibility for CalFresh benefits to convicted drug felons except those convicted of transporting, selling, manufacturing, giving away, among other activities, providing the applicants otherwise qualify for benefits. Current law also permits individuals to be eligible for CalFresh if they have participated in, or are on the waiting list for, a drug treatment program, or who can show other evidence that the illegal use of controlled substances has ceased. This bill would ban a person on supervised release, from eligibility for CalFresh benefits during any period of revocation of that supervised release where the revocation results in the individual’s incarceration. *Held under submission in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

SB 480 (Yee) CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, and CalFresh: suspension of benefits

This bill would require that an inmate of a public institution who is a recipient of CalWORKs or CalFresh benefits must have those benefits suspended for up to one year of incarceration, and then have the benefits reinstated without application, if the beneficiary still qualifies for assistance. The bill also extends this benefit suspension to adults in the Medi-Cal program. Current law requires that children under age 18 who are incarcerated have their medical benefits reinstated after release without reapplication. *Pending in the Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

SB 672 (Leno) CalFresh: eligibility: guidelines

SB 672 requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to issue guidance that simplifies the verification of dependent care expenses in order to determine eligibility and benefit level for CalFresh recipients. Specifically, the bill establishes that dependent care expenses shall be considered verified upon receipt of a self-certified statement of monthly dependent care expenses, as specified. It permits county human service agencies to request additional documentation, as specified. *Chapter 568, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 191 (Bocanegra) CalFresh: categorical eligibility

AB 191 requires DSS to establish a program that confers categorical eligibility for CalFresh to a household that includes a member who receives, or is eligible to receive, services through the Medi-Cal program, and also is eligible for CalFresh benefits. *Chapter 669, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 271 (Mitchell) CalWORKs: eligibility

This bill would expressly prohibit the denial of aid or denial of an increase in the maximum aid payment for a child who was born into the family of a California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Act (CalWORKs) recipient, and would limit any increased payment to months after January 1, 2014. It also would prohibit DSS from conditioning eligibility for aid on an applicant's or recipient's disclosure of information about being a victim of rape, incest, or contraception failure, as specified. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

AB 309 (Mitchell) CalFresh: homeless youth

This bill clarifies that there is no minimum age requirement for CalFresh eligibility. It requires county welfare departments, upon receipt of a signed CalFresh application from an unaccompanied child or youth under 18 years of age, to determine eligibility including entitlement to expedited service for homeless individuals. Furthermore, it requires county welfare departments to notify a child or youth in writing of the reason an application is denied. This bill additionally requires county welfare departments to make available to local educational agency liaisons information about expedited services for homeless individuals, and to include information about CalFresh eligibility for unaccompanied homeless children and youths in the training provided to homeless shelter operators. *Chapter 97, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 419 (Lowenthal) CalWORKs: eligibility

This bill repeals the two-month cap on the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) aid payments to a child in a public hospital and instead provides that a child who is a patient in a public or private hospital for medical or surgical care shall be considered temporarily absent from the home, and therefore eligible for a CalWORKs grant, for the duration of the hospital stay. *Chapter 293, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1094 (Brown) CalWORKs: eligibility

AB 1094 expands the definition of disability-based unearned income to include veteran's disability compensation for use in calculating benefits in the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program. Current law provides that certain amounts of disability benefits are exempted from the calculation for CalWORKs benefits. This bill adds veteran's disability compensation to that category. *Chapter 554, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1280 (John A. Perez) Public assistance payments and unemployment compensation benefits: electronic fund transfer: qualifying accounts

This bill permits a recipient of public assistance payments to authorize payment to be directly deposited by electronic fund transfer to a qualifying account at a financial institution of the recipient's choice. The bill requires qualifying accounts to meet specific requirements. It additionally requires that if a recipient of unemployment benefits elects to receive payments by direct deposit, the payments shall only be deposited to a qualifying account. It also clarifies that county treasurers and the Employment Development Department (EDD) have no obligation to determine whether a designated account is a qualifying account. The bill further prohibits an

entity that issues or manages a prepaid card from accepting or facilitating the direct deposit of public assistance payments or unemployment compensation benefits to a prepaid card account that does not meet the specified requirements. *Chapter 557, Statutes of 2013.*

3. Child Care

SB 766 (Yee) Ancillary day care centers

This bill requires that ancillary day care centers comply with certain requirements, including provider-child ratios, and ensure the presence at all times of at least one care provider who is at least 18 years of age. Existing law defines ancillary day care centers as being associated with an athletic club, grocery store, or other business or group of businesses for which the day care center is ancillary to its principal business activity and which provides day care services while the clients or customers are conducting business on site. This bill also requires any person who is responsible for engaging with children in an ancillary day care center to be registered as a TrustLine provider. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

AB 290 (Alejo) Child day care: childhood nutrition training

This bill requires a teacher or director of a day care center or family day care home who is licensed after January 1, 2016, and receives health and safety training, to also have at least one hour of childhood nutrition training. The training must include information about age-appropriate meal patterns, and about reimbursement rates for the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program. *Chapter 734, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 835 (Muratsuchi) Child care: facilities: loans

This bill would permit the Department of Housing and Community Development to amend loan terms that have been provided through the Child Care and Development Facilities Direct Loan Fund, and guaranteed by the Child Care and Development Facilities Loan Guaranty Fund under specific circumstances. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

4. Community Care, Licensing

SB 579 (Berryhill) Developmental services: Oversight Efficiency and Quality Enhancement Model

SB 579 establishes a pilot project in specific regional centers to shift the oversight of service providers from the Community Care Licensing Division of the State Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Licensing and Certification Division of the State Department of Public Health (CDPH) to the pilot regional centers, through DDS. The bill also would require the Legislative Analyst's Office to conduct a study identifying all of the financial and human resources expended in relation to current quality assurance activities for the licensed programs identified in the pilot project and to determine the amount of current quality assurance costs that are covered by federal dollars and what could be federally funded if the system and waiver were changed. *Pending in the Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

SB 766 (Yee) Ancillary day care centers

This bill requires that ancillary day care centers comply with certain requirements, including provider-child ratios, and ensure the presence at all times of at least one care provider who is at least 18 years of age. Existing law defines ancillary day care centers as being associated with an athletic club, grocery store, or other business or group of businesses for which the day care center is ancillary to its principal business activity and which provides day care services while the clients or customers are conducting business on site. This bill also requires any person who is responsible for engaging with children in an ancillary day care center to be registered as a TrustLine provider. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

SB 781 (Lara) Continuing care contracts

This bill mandates that a provider of services in a continuing care retirement community who has entered into a Type A contract, as defined, make public an actuarial opinion by posting it online or providing it to a current resident upon request. Current law requires that providers entering into Type A contracts file an actuary's opinion as to the actuarial financial condition of the provider's continuing care operations with the Department of Social Services. *Pending in the Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

AB 261 (Chesbro) Residential care facilities for the elderly: fees and charges.

This bill prohibits Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) from requiring advance notice to terminate an admission agreement upon death of a resident. It prohibits the accrual of any fees once the personal property of a deceased resident is removed. In addition, AB 261 requires that within three days of a patient's death the RCFE provide a written notice of the facility's policies involving contract termination and refunds, as specified. Furthermore, this bill requires RCFEs to refund any fees paid in advance that cover the time after the resident's property has been removed. *Chapter 290, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 290 (Alejo) Child day care: childhood nutrition training

This bill requires a teacher or director of a day care center or family day care home who is licensed after January 1, 2016, and receives health and safety training, to also have at least one hour of childhood nutrition training. The training must include information about age-appropriate meal patterns, and about reimbursement rates for the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program. *Chapter 734, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 346 (Stone) Runaway and homeless youth shelters

This bill includes runaway and homeless youth shelters within the definition of “community care facilities,” and defines such shelters as group homes licensed by DSS to provide voluntary, short-term (no more than 21 consecutive days) shelter and personal services to runaway youth or homeless youth. This bill specifies a number of requirements for these runaway and homeless youth shelters, including among other things that they have a maximum capacity of 25 youths, that they assist youth in obtaining emergency health-related services, and that they establish procedures for assisting youth in securing long-term stability. The bill also specifies instances in which runaway and homeless youth shelters are not placement options for youth, and stipulates that such shelters are not eligible for AFDC-FC funding. *Chapter 485, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 352 (Hall) Foster care: smoke-free environment

This bill requires group homes, foster family agencies, small family homes, transitional housing placement providers, and crisis nurseries that provide residential foster care to a child to maintain a smoke-free environment. It prohibits a person who is licensed or certified to provide residential care in a foster family home or certified family home from smoking or permitting any other person to smoke inside the facility, and, when the child is present, on the outdoor grounds of the facility. This bill also prohibits a person who is licensed or certified pursuant to these provisions from smoking in any motor vehicle that is regularly used to transport the child. *Chapter 292, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 413 (Chavez) Foster care: specialized foster care homes

This bill stipulates that a specialized foster care home for children with special health care needs that has more than two foster children, regardless of whether a child has special health care needs, must have on-call assistance available at all times in case of emergencies, and must be of sufficient size to accommodate all children in the home. These requirements previously applied to these homes in instances where four or more foster children were present. *Chapter 100, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 581 (Ammiano) Care facilities: retaliation

This bill extends discrimination and retaliation protections to a resident or employee of a community care facility (CCF), residential care facility (RCF), or residential care facility for the elderly (RCFE) who has filed with the Department of Social Services (DSS) or a state or local ombudsman a complaint, grievance, or request for inspection regarding the facility. Existing law establishes protections against retaliation from the licensee. This bill further extends those protections against retaliation by an officer of the licensee. *Chapter 295, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 620 (Buchanan) Health and care facilities: missing patients and participants

This bill requires all health facilities, community care facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, and adult day health care centers to develop and comply with an absentee notification plan for residents, patients, and participants. It specifies that such plans be limited to: 1) a requirement that facility administrators inform an authorized representative when that resident,

patient or participant is missing; and 2) the conditions under which such administrators are to notify local law enforcement that a resident, patient, or participant is missing from the facility. *Chapter 674, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 663 (Gomez) Care facilities: training requirements

AB 663 requires existing training programs for administrators of Adult Residential Facilities and Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly and for certified ombudsman to include training in cultural competency and sensitivity in issues relating to the aging lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. *Chapter 675, Statutes of 2013.*

5. Homelessness Assistance

SB 177 (Liu) Homeless Youth Education Success Act

This bill requires public schools and county offices of education to immediately enroll a homeless child or youth seeking enrollment, as is currently required for foster children and youth. Additionally, it requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Department of Education to identify individuals in their departments and in other state agencies with experience in homeless youth issues. It directs these individuals to develop policies and practices to present to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and to DSS that are focused on providing support to homeless children and youth and ensuring that child abuse and neglect reporting requirements do not create barriers to school enrollment and attendance. Federal law already requires local education agencies to have a liaison for homeless children and youth; this bill requires these liaisons to ensure that public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youth are disseminated to schools. *Chapter 491, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 346 (Stone) Runaway and homeless youth shelters

This bill includes runaway and homeless youth shelters within the definition of “community care facilities,” and defines such shelters as group homes licensed by DSS to provide voluntary, short-term (no more than 21 consecutive days) shelter and personal services to runaway youth or homeless youth. This bill specifies a number of requirements for these runaway and homeless youth shelters, including among other things that they have a maximum capacity of 25 youths, that they assist youth in obtaining emergency health-related services, and that they establish procedures for assisting youth in securing long-term stability. The bill also specifies instances in which runaway and homeless youth shelters are not placement options for youth, and stipulates that such shelters are not eligible for AFDC-FC funding. *Chapter 485, Statutes of 2013.*

6. Developmental Services, Rehabilitative Services

SB 137 (Emmerson) Developmental services: regional centers

This bill requires that regional centers include additional information on a list of required vendor information that must be posted on its Internet web site. The additional information includes actual rates paid to each vendor and specific regional center funds that are paid to a nonprofit housing organization outside the request for proposal process. *Held the in Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

SB 158 (Correa) Autism services: demonstration program

SB 158 establishes a demonstration program to assist families and individuals with autism spectrum disorders who are regional center consumers and who live in underserved communities. The bill authorizes DDS to contract with a University of California or California State University campus to serve as a coordinating center to develop the program. It specifies that regional center participation is voluntary. **Vetoed by the Governor.** *Please see the Governor's veto message in section 10.*

SB 163 (Hueso) Developmental services: health insurance payments

This bill requires centers to pay any applicable copayment, coinsurance, and or deductible imposed by a health insurance policy or health care service plan for a service or support required by a consumer's Individual Program Plan or Individual Family Service Plan. It would prohibit a regional center from imposing on the consumer or his or her family a share of cost for, or income requirements relating to, those payments, and from seeking reimbursement for those payments. It also would require a regional center the department to establish appropriate application and documentation forms to implement those provisions. *Held under submission in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

SB 192 (Liu) Early learning and educational support services

This bill reorganizes and recasts a number of child care provisions and entitles the new provisions the Early Learning and Educational Support Act. It requires the state Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop standards for the implementation of high-quality early learning and educational support programs in child care settings and requires specified information to be given to parents who receive services from resource and referral programs and alternative payment programs. *After being amended, this bill was waived by the committee to the Education Committee.*

SB 208 (Lara) Developmental services: request for proposals

SB 208 requires that any Request for Proposal (RFP) that is prepared by a regional center for consumer services and supports must include a section on issues of equity and diversity, as specified. It requires that if the RFP applies only to one or more identified consumers, that the RFP needs only to request information on how the applicant plans to provide culturally and linguistically competent services and supports to those specific consumers.

Additionally, this bill eliminates the prohibition against a prepaid health plan's use of a subcontractor, as specified. This bill would instead authorize, unless the state Department of Health Care Services objects, a prepaid health plan to enter into a subcontract in which

consideration is determined by a percentage of the primary contractor's payment from the department. *Chapter 656, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 319 (Price) Developmental services: regional centers: data compilation

This bill requires that regional centers use a uniform methodology to collect, analyze and report data that can be compared statewide. Additionally, it requires each regional center to develop and post on its Internet Web site an annual report identifying disparities in services and the regional center's plan to reduce those disparities. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

SB 321 (Price) Developmental services: regional centers: performance contracts

SB 321 requires that a regional center's five-year contract with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) include in the annual performance objectives the development of culturally and linguistically appropriate services and supports. Additionally, the bill requires DDS to specify in its contract with each regional center any areas that require improvement to reduce racial and ethnic disparities. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

SB 349 (Walters) Home- and community-based services waiver for the developmentally disabled: sheltered work.

This bill establishes the requirement that a provider of sheltered work under a specified federal waiver demonstrate that the provider is transitioning at least 20 percent of its clients annually into integrated, individualized employment settings. *Pending in the Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

SB 367 (Block) Developmental services: regional centers: cultural and linguistic competency

This bill requires the governing board of a regional center to annually review the performance of the regional center in providing services that are linguistically and culturally appropriate. It authorizes the governing board to provide recommendations to the director of the regional center based on the results of that review. *Chapter 682, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 468 (Emmerson) Developmental services: statewide Self-Determination Program

This bill establishes a statewide Self-Determination Program for individuals with developmental disabilities and makes the program available in every regional center catchment area, contingent upon federal funding approval. The Self-Determination Program will provide participants and their families, within an individual budget, increased flexibility and choice, and greater control over decisions, resources, and needed and desired services and supports to implement their IPP. The program would be phased in over three years, serving up to 2,500 regional center consumers statewide initially. After three years, it will be available to all eligible regional center consumers who choose to participate. *Chapter 683, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 534 (Hernandez) Health and care facilities

Until the Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) adopt licensing regulations for Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled (ICF/DD), as required by law, this bill would require that those facilities comply with applicable federal certification standards, as specified. These provisions would become inoperative on January 1, 2018. This bill also requires similar adherence to federal standards for other specified health clinics regulated by CDPH.

Additionally, this bill would authorize the establishment of multiple congregate living health facilities in one multi-floor building if, among other requirements, each facility is separated by a wall, floor, or other permanent partition, and the facility is located on former McClellan Air Force Base. Current law permits licensure of congregate living facilities that are located in residential homes with a capacity of no more than 12 beds, and that meet other requirements. *Chapter 722, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 555 (Correa) Developmental services: regional centers: individual program plans and individualized family service plans

This bill requires a regional center to communicate and provide written materials in the native language of the consumer or family, or the legal guardian, conservator or authorized representative of the consumer, during the IPP and IFSP processes. Similarly, the family's native language is required to be documented in the IPP or IFSP. *Chapter 685, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 577 (Pavley) Autism and other developmental disabilities: pilot program: employment

This bill would require DDS to establish a pilot program in six regional centers for young adults with autism and other developmental disabilities to help them find pathways to financial independence through work. It mandates through the pilot program the development and implementation of a new model for providing employment services to these individuals and to create financial incentives for employment service providers. Specifically, the bill would define job exploration and discovery services and establish a rate of \$40 per hour, up to 75 hours per quarter, to be paid to regional center vendors that provide those services. It also would establish until July 1, 2018, an Employment Growth Fund which would consist of funds appropriated by the Legislature from the cost savings assumed from the reduced amount of support payments made to individuals who earn wages as a result of their participation in the pilot program. These funds would consist of \$200 per month to be transferred from the Department of Health Care Services for each month a program participant is enrolled in employer-provided health care coverage and a one time transfer of \$1,000 per participant that reaches the federal standards of employment leading to federal reimbursement to the Department of Rehabilitation. This transfer would be made from the Department of Rehabilitation. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

SB 579 (Berryhill) Developmental services: Commission on Oversight Efficiency and Quality Enhancement Model

SB 579 establishes a pilot project in specific regional centers to shift the oversight of service providers from the Community Care Licensing Division of the State Department of Social

Services (DSS) and the Licensing and Certification Division of the State Department of Public Health (CDPH) to the pilot regional centers, through DDS. The bill also would require the Legislative Analyst's Office to conduct a study identifying all of the financial and human resources expended in relation to current quality assurance activities for the licensed programs identified in the pilot project and to determine the amount of current quality assurance costs that are covered by federal dollars and what could be federally funded if the system and waiver were changed. *Pending in the Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

SB 651 (Pavley) Developmental centers and state hospitals

This bill requires that investigators in developmental centers and state hospitals request a sexual assault forensic medical examination for any resident of a developmental center or any resident of a state hospital who is a victim or is reasonably suspected to be a victim of sexual assault, as defined. It requires that this forensic exam be performed at an appropriate facility off the grounds of the developmental center or state hospital, as specified. It permits, under specified circumstances, that the exam could be performed at a developmental center or a state hospital but specifies that exam must be done by an independent sexual assault forensic examiner designated to perform examinations of victims of sexual assault.

Additionally, this bill levies penalties and establishes violations for a developmental center's failure to report an incident to local law enforcement that is required by existing statute. *Chapter 724, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 602 (Yamada) Mentally and developmentally disabled persons: reporting abuse: peace officer training

This bill requires the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) to develop a course on investigating abuse of residents of state mental hospitals and developmental centers. Additionally, it requires mandated reporters to report certain types of abuse of persons in state mental hospitals and developmental centers to both local law enforcement and state investigators immediately, but no later than two hours and requires that a local law enforcement agency coordinate efforts with the designated investigators of the developmental centers or state hospitals to provide an investigative response to specific crimes. *Chapter 673, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 620 (Buchanan) Health and care facilities: missing patients and participants

This bill requires all health facilities, community care facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, and adult day health care centers to develop and comply with an absentee notification plan for residents, patients, and participants. It specifies that such plans be limited to: 1) a requirement that facility administrators inform an authorized representative when that resident, patient or participant is missing; and 2) the conditions under which such administrators are to notify local law enforcement that a resident, patient, or participant is missing from the facility. *Chapter 674, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 663 (Lara) Sexual assault: victims with intellectual and developmental disabilities

The bill expresses Legislative intent to address the problem of sexual violence against people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and mandates a number of process and definition changes to the state's Evidence Code and Penal Code, including the defining legal consent and defining the role of a care provider. Additionally, this bill requires development of a

model general order or formal policy by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) for law enforcement officers to dealing with crime victims with developmental disabilities and specifies the content including data, definitions, resources and procedures to be followed. *Pending in Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

AB 1041 (Chesbro) Developmental services: Employment First Policy

This bill establishes an Employment First Policy and requires each regional center to consider the policy when developing an individual program plan (IPP) for a transition age youth or working age adult. AB 1041 requires regional centers to provide consumers aged 16 and older with information about the Employment First Policy and options for integrated competitive employment. It requires regional centers also to provide these consumers with information about services and supports, including postsecondary education, that are available to enable the consumer to transition from school to work, and to obtain and keep an integrated competitive job. The bill requires the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to develop informational materials, to identify a means for tracking data on participation in the program and to develop recommended outcome goals for participants. It also defines in statute the terms competitive employment, microenterprise, and self-employment for the purposes of the Employment First Policy. *Chapter 677, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1089 (Calderon) Foster care

This bill would specify the transfer procedures that would apply for a regional center consumer who is a foster child who has been placed in out-of-home care and is being moved from a home in one regional center's jurisdiction area to another regional center. The bill would specify the process for a county social worker or probation officer to send a notice of relocation and the process and timeline for a regional center which receives a county's transfer notice. It defines specific time lines for action once a regional center is notified that a foster child will be coming into their jurisdiction, and specifies certain processes to ensure services are provided quickly. It also would specify time frames and processes that apply to local educational agencies. *Pending in Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

AB 1112 (Ammiano) Developmental services: habilitation

When it was heard in the Senate Human Services Committee, AB 1112 would have required that a program provider, under specified circumstances, be paid a one-time fee of \$700 for employment preparation services provided to a consumer prior to placement in an integrated job. This bill also would have required that providers of individualized and group-supported employment services be paid the rates provided in existing law or rates established by the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR), whichever is greater. *This version of the bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee and later amended into language related to the Public Utilities Code.*

AB 1231 (V. Manuel Perez) Regional centers: telehealth

This bill requires, until January 1, 2019, the department to inform all regional centers that any appropriate health care and dentistry service may be provided through the use of telehealth, as

defined, to consumers of regional center services. In addition, this bill requires the department to provide technical assistance to regional centers on the use of telehealth and to request those centers to consider the use of telehealth services for inclusion in training programs for parents of consumers. The bill also requires that the provision of a service through the use of telehealth be voluntary and immediately discontinued at the request of the consumer or his or her parent, legal guardian, or conservator, as appropriate. *Vetoed by the Governor. Please see the Governor's veto message in section 10.*

AB 1232 (V. Manuel Perez) Developmental services: quality assessment system

This bill requires that the quality assurance instrument that is used by the Department of Developmental Services through a contractual agreement include a requirement to assess whether services are provided in a linguistically and culturally competent manner. It requires the tool include outcome-based measures to evaluate the linguistic and cultural competency of regional center services that are provided to consumers across their lifetimes, and it requires that the contractor be experienced in issues relating to linguistic and cultural competency. *Chapter 679, Statutes of 2013.*

7. Child Welfare, Foster Care, Adoptions

SB 342 (Yee) Foster children: social worker: visits

This bill requires that social workers' and probation officers' monthly visits for each foster child placed in a group home or foster home comply with specified federal requirements (namely, that the majority of these visits takes place in the residence in which the child is placed) and that no more than two consecutive monthly visits are held outside of the foster child's residence. Additionally, this bill requires social workers and probation officers to document the location of any visits that aren't in the foster child's residence in the case file and court report, and the reason for the visit taking place outside of the residence. This bill also requires social workers and probation officers to inform each foster child that she/he has the right to request a private discussion outside of the group home or foster home. This discussion doesn't replace the group home/foster home visit; however, the worker or officer does not need to schedule an additional visit to accommodate this request. *Chapter 492, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 343 (Yee) Dependent children: documents

This bill requires county welfare departments to submit a report verifying that certain information, documents and services, as specified, are provided at the first regularly scheduled court hearing after a dependent youth has turned 16 years old. Documents to be provided include a copy of the youth's birth certificate, the youth's driver's license or identification card, and, in specified circumstances including attempts to obtain employment, the youth's Social Security card. Services to be provided include, if applicable, assistance in obtaining employment and in preparing for and applying to college, vocational training programs, and other educational institutions, among other things. This bill also requires county welfare departments to submit a

report describing efforts at providing similar information, documents, and services, as specified, at the hearing immediately prior to a dependent youth turning 18 years old, and at every subsequent review hearing. *Held under submission in Senate Appropriations Committee.*

SB 522 (Hueso) Foster Family Home and Small Family Home Insurance Fund

This bill restricts certain liability exemptions of the Foster Family Home and Small Family Home Insurance Fund to intentionally bad acts, as specified, committed by foster parents. It also stipulates that multiple incidents of a general course of conduct should be considered one “occurrence,” regardless of the span of time over which these incidents took place, and that the fund shall only be liable once for damages arising from one occurrence. This bill specifies that the time period for calculating the maximum amount of damages for any single home, as defined, includes all claims arising over any consecutive 12-month period. Additionally, it stipulates that the fund is not liable for any loss arising out of a bad act, as specified, of any person if the loss takes place prior to July 1, 2013. *Chapter 494, Statutes of 2013*

SB 528 (Yee) Dependents: care and treatment: minor parents and nonminor dependent parents

This bill provides for additional supportive services for foster youth, including authorizing a dependent child’s social worker to, if the child at least 12 years old, inform that child of his or her right to consent to certain health services (and includes this in the Foster Youth Bill of Rights), and to provide dependent children with access to age-appropriate, medically accurate information about sexual development, reproductive health, and related information. This bill also includes a number of provisions regarding minor and nonminor dependent parents, including: authorizing child welfare agencies to provide such parents with access to social workers and resource specialists, encouraging these agencies to update case plans within 60 day of learning of a pregnancy, authorizing agencies to hold a specialized conference to assist the pregnant/parenting minor or nonminor dependent, requires access to education be given to nonminor dependent parents, authorizes reasonable efforts be made to allow access to school programs that provide child care for minor parents and nonminor dependent parents, requires that foster care placements for nonminor dependent parents and their children be willing and able to provide support to those parents and their children, and declares the intent of the Legislature to ensure that data on parenting minor and nonminor dependents is collected. *Chapter 338, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 625 (Beall) Child welfare: racial and ethnic disparities

This bill would prohibit the department and each county welfare department, and its vendors, from denying services to parents or children on the basis of the client’s language, or discriminating against clients on the basis of race, color, or national origin. It would require counties to document the communication needs of each Hispanic parent and child, require that Spanish-speaking clients be provided information in Spanish, and have adequate bilingual staff capacity to assign bilingual workers to Spanish-speaking families. The bill also would require that care for children who are in the county welfare department’s custody shall be linguistically

and culturally equivalent to, as nearly as possible, the care provided by the children's parents. The bill would require that children of Spanish-speaking parents be placed with Spanish-speaking foster parents, and require that placement occur within 60 days from the date the children are removed from their homes. *Pending in the Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

SB 738 (Yee) Sexually exploited and trafficked minors

This bill expands the list of minors that may come within the jurisdiction of the juvenile dependency court to include victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation, as specified, if the parent or guardian failed or was unable to protect the child. It requires that existing training for administrators of group home facilities, licensed foster parents, and relative or nonrelative extended family member caregivers now include instruction on cultural competency and sensitivity for providing adequate care to sexually exploited and trafficked minors in out-of-home care. It requires the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) to convene an interagency workgroup by January 30, 2014, in consultation with the Child Welfare Council, to develop a comprehensive state plan to serve and protect sexually exploited and trafficked minors. The state plan, including implementation recommendations and a timeline, is to be submitted to the Legislature, Governor, and Judicial Council by January 30, 2015. *Pending in the Assembly Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

AB 352 (Hall) Foster care: smoke-free environment

This bill requires group homes, foster family agencies, small family homes, transitional housing placement providers, and crisis nurseries that provide residential foster care to a child to maintain a smoke-free environment. It prohibits a person who is licensed or certified to provide residential care in a foster family home or certified family home from smoking or permitting any other person to smoke inside the facility, and, when the child is present, on the outdoor grounds of the facility. This bill also prohibits a person who is licensed or certified pursuant to these provisions from smoking in any motor vehicle that is regularly used to transport the child. *Chapter 292, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 413 (Chavez) Foster care: specialized foster care homes

This bill stipulates that a specialized foster care home for children with special health care needs that has more than two foster children, regardless of whether a child has special health care needs, must have on-call assistance available at all times in case of emergencies, and must be of sufficient size to accommodate all children in the home. These requirements previously applied to these homes in instances where four or more foster children were present. *Chapter 100, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 506 (Mitchell) HIV testing: infants

This bill authorizes a social worker to provide consent for a human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) test to be performed on a child less than 12 months of age who has been taken into temporary custody or has had a petition filed to be adjudged a dependent of the court. AB 506 also permits a social worker to authorize, without court order, emergency medical care to an infant who tests positive for HIV. If an infant tests positive for HIV, it requires the social worker

to provide a physician with any available contact information for the biological mother for purposes of reporting the HIV infection to the local health officer. *Chapter 153, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 545 (Mitchell) Dependent children: placement: nonrelative extended family member

This bill expands the definition of a nonrelative extended family member to include an adult caregiver who has an established familial relationship with a relative of the child, as defined. Prior to AB 545 a nonrelative extended family member was defined as an adult who had an established familial relationship with the child. Existing law provides that a dependent child may be placed with a nonrelative extended family member after the home is evaluated and approved pursuant to the same standards of safety and sanitation and providers standards of basic personal care, supervision that are used to license foster family homes. *Chapter 294, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 620 (Buchanan) Health and care facilities: missing patients and participants

This bill requires all health facilities, community care facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, and adult day health care centers to develop and comply with an absentee notification plan for residents, patients, and participants. It specifies that such plans be limited to: 1) a requirement that facility administrators inform an authorized representative when that resident, patient or participant is missing; and 2) the conditions under which such administrators are to notify local law enforcement that a resident, patient, or participant is missing from the facility. *Chapter 674, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 787 (Stone) Foster care

This bill makes technical and clarifying changes to the California Fostering Connections to Success Act of 2010. Specifically, this bill also authorizes nonminors who are under 21 years old and whose former guardian(s) died after he/she turned 18 to petition the court to resume jurisdiction if the nonminor either received Kin-GAP or adoption assistance aid after the age of 18. The bill stipulates requirements for the hearing regarding this petition, and states that the court shall assume dependency jurisdiction over a former dependent or ward and order appropriate placement if it finds that all of the criteria, as specified, are met. This bill adds clarifying language around the placement of nonminor wards of the court, and adds the existing definition of “transition dependent” to the code section pertaining to AFDC-FC eligibility. Additionally, the bill authorizes probation officers to place nonminor dependents in transitional placements, as specified and clarifies how a court may terminate jurisdiction over a nonminor dependent. *Chapter 487, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 985 (Cooley) Guardianship and adoption assistance

This bill extends the age until which eligible youth may receive state-funded Kin-GAP benefits to 21. It stipulates that a nonminor former dependent shall be eligible for continued state-funded Kin-GAP payments between ages 18 and 21, if their a relative guardian continues to be responsible for the nonminor dependent, and the nonminor meets one or more specified conditions, such as completing secondary education or working at least 80 hours a month. This bill also makes eligible for state-funded Kin-GAP a nonminor dependent who was receiving

federal Kin-GAP benefits, and meets specified criteria, as defined. This bill requires county social workers to determine if a youth has a mental or physical disability that warrants continuation of assistance. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

AB 1089 (Calderon) Foster care

This bill would specify the transfer procedures that would apply for a regional center consumer who is a foster child who has been placed in out-of-home care and is being moved from a home in one regional center’s jurisdiction area to another regional center. The bill would specify the process for a county social worker or probation officer to send a notice of relocation and the process and timeline for a regional center which receives a county’s transfer notice. It defines specific time lines for action once a regional center is notified that a foster child will be coming into their jurisdiction, and specifies certain processes to ensure services are provided quickly. It also would specify time frames and processes that apply to local educational agencies. *Pending in Senate Human Services Committee as a two-year bill.*

AB 1133 (Mitchell) Foster children: special health care needs

This bill requires that when determining the placement of a foster child who is medically fragile, priority consideration be given to placement with a foster parent who is an individual nurse provider, and who provides health services under the federal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) program, unless the child has the option of placement with a relative, as specified. The bill also clarifies that a medically fragile child meets the definition of a “child with special health care needs,” as defined in statute. *Chapter 490, Statutes of 2013.*

AB 1171 (Levine) Child welfare services: electronic records

This bill would authorize, no later than July 1, 2014, counties to adopt a voluntary three-year pilot program in which foster youth over the age of 16 and nonminor dependents could create a singular online electronic record containing information and documents pertinent to their transition to adulthood, such as medical records, a copy of the youth’s birth certificate, etc., that can be accessed and used as specified. This bill stipulates that at least three counties must participate, that CDSS shall determine which counties are eligible to participate, and that participating counties may use existing online electronic systems. The bill also requires CDSS to submit a report to the Assembly and Senate Human Services Committees that provides an evaluation of the pilot program and recommendations by December 1, 2016. It contains a provision that requires implementation only if the Director of Finance determines that there are sufficient funds available outside of the General Fund to do so. The provisions of this bill would become inoperative on January 1, 2018, and are repealed on January 1, 2019. *Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

8. In-Home Supportive Services

SB 572 (Price) In-Home Supportive Services Employer-Employee Relations Act: impasse procedures.

This bill requires the California In-Home Supportive Services Authority to, when presenting any proposal in its last, best, and final offer during labor negotiations, to present to the Legislature for approval any parts that conflict with existing law or require the expenditure of funds. These provisions were adopted in trailer bill language. *Senate Human Services Committee.*

AB 485 (Gomez) In-home supportive services

This bill delinks the statewide bargaining provision of In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) providers and associated creation of a statewide Public Authority from other provisions and timelines of the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI). Specifically, it creates a statewide implementation date for the statewide Public Authority of January 1, 2014. Existing law provided for the creation of the Public Authority upon enrollment of patients in eight pilot counties into the CCI. The original implementation date was set in statute no earlier than March 1, 2013. However, various delays have pushed that date to April 1, 2014 or later. This bill also eliminated language that would delete authorization of the statewide Public Authority if the CCI is not implemented. *Pending in Senate Health Committee as a two-year bill.*

AB 1217 (Lowenthal) Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act of 2013

This bill establishes the Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act to provide for the licensure and regulation of home care organizations and the registration of home care aides, effective January 1, 2015. This bill requires DSS to establish and maintain on the department's Internet Web site a continuously updated public registry of registered home care aides and home care aide applicants, and requires "affiliated home care aides" – those aides who are employed by a homecare organization to provide home care services to a client – to be listed on this registry, while allowing "independent home care aides" – those aides who are not employed by a home care organization – to voluntarily register. This bill also establishes other requirements for affiliated home care aides, including that they pass a tuberculosis test and complete basic training. It establishes criteria for the licensure of home care organizations, and requires DSS to verify that a home care organization is in compliance with licensure through random unannounced inspections. The bill establishes various fees and fines and requires them to be deposited into newly created a Home Care Fund. This bill also establishes new misdemeanors for falsely representing or presenting oneself as a home care aide applicant or registered home care aide, and for willfully or repeatedly violating a rule or regulation. *Chapter 790, Statutes of 2013. See Governor's signing message in section 11.*

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9. Public Services, Social Services & other Human Services

SB 23 (Lara) Task Force on New American Integration

This bill would establish until January 1, 2018 a Task Force on New American Integration within the office of the Governor to provide, among other things, recommendations to the Legislature on protocols and collaboration among governmental agencies to streamline resources to assist immigrant integration. *Held under submission in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

SB 346 (Beall) Public social services: records

This bill clarifies existing law regarding the sharing of applicant and client information between separate county welfare departments, and between county welfare departments and the state Department of Social Services, by stating that public social services include specified publicly-funded health care services, excluding Medi-Cal, administered or supervised by the Department of Social Services or the State Department of Health Care Services. *Chapter 658, Statutes of 2013.*

SB 602 (Human Services Committee) Child abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment projects

This bill deletes current statutory requirements related to Child Abuse Prevention Intervention and Treatment (CAPIT) programs that conflict with the removal of state responsibility due to realignment of those programs to counties. *Chapter 60, Statutes of 2103.*

AB 1280 (John A. Perez) Public assistance payments and unemployment compensation benefits: electronic fund transfer: qualifying accounts

This bill permits a recipient of public assistance payments to authorize payment to be directly deposited by electronic fund transfer to a qualifying account at a financial institution of the recipient's choice. The bill requires qualifying accounts to meet specific requirements. It additionally requires that if a recipient of unemployment benefits elects to receive payments by direct deposit, the payments shall only be deposited to a qualifying account. It also clarifies that county treasurers and the Employment Development Department (EDD) have no obligation to determine whether a designated account is a qualifying account. The bill further prohibits an entity that issues or manages a prepaid card from accepting or facilitating the direct deposit of public assistance payments or unemployment compensation benefits to a prepaid card account that does not meet the specified requirements. *Chapter 557, Statutes of 2013.*

AJR 7 (Bonta) Social security, Medicare, and Medicaid

This joint resolution of the Assembly and Senate requests that the President and the United States Congress exclude social security, Medicare, and Medicaid from being a part of any legislation to reduce the federal deficit, and states California Legislature's opposition to cuts to these three programs. It also calls on California's representatives to the United States Congress to vote against cuts to social security, Medicare, and Medicaid and to consider improving those systems in ways that would strengthen their protections. *Chapter 35, Statutes of 201*

10. Governor's Veto Messages

SB 158 (Correa) Autism services: demonstration program

10/09/2013

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 158 without my signature. The bill seeks to give the Department of Developmental Services permission to establish a voluntary program with no identified funding to focus attention on autism spectrum disorders and underserved communities.

Understanding the needs of disparate communities is a responsibility and goal the department, regional centers, and the three University Centers on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities all share. The bill imparts no new authority, alters no mission, and provides no new money to these efforts. As such, the work that the bill seeks to promote is already underway, to the best extent of available resources.

If new federal or private resources should become available, the infrastructure and the will to do more are already there.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.

AB 477 (Chau) Elder and dependent adult abuse: mandated reporting

10/09/2013

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 477 without my signature. This bill would add notaries public to the list of professionals mandated to report suspected financial abuse of elder and dependent adults.

I am not convinced that notaries, with their very limited interactions, should be placed in the position of being a mandated reporter. Others who are expressly mandated by law to report abuse typically have some level of relationship or more regular contact with the elder or dependent adult, or have some level of training in identifying abuse. For mandated reporting of financial abuse, officers and employees of financial institutions are required to report because of their access to financial information.

Notaries generally have no more than fleeting contact with individuals who request their services. If some transaction or situation should arise that gives them pause or appears suspect, notaries may already make a report without this law.

I believe that voluntary education and outreach efforts to notaries about financial abuse would better suit this class of professionals.

*Sincerely,
Edmund G. Brown Jr.*

AB 1231 (V. Manuel Perez) Regional centers: telehealth
10/09/2013

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1231 without my signature. This bill would require the Department of Developmental Services to inform regional centers that any appropriate health care service, including dentistry, may be provided through telehealth. The bill would additionally require the department to ask regional centers to consider using telehealth in their parent training programs and provide technical assistance on telehealth.

Everything required by this bill either can be done, or is already being done, under existing law.

*Sincerely,
Edmund G. Brown Jr.*

11. Governor's Signing Messages

AB 1217 (Lowenthal) Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act of 2013
10/13/2013

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

Assembly Bill 1217 would create a regulatory framework for the private homecare industry and homecare aides.

Last year, I vetoed a more expansive bill, because I did not think that the time was right to create costly new regulatory burdens, given the economic uncertainty for many businesses and families in the homecare world.

I am signing AB 1217 because it strike a better balance between consumer protection and industry regulation, and because the author's office and legislative leadership have committed to delay the bill's effective date by one year to January 1, 2016.

To delay, coupled with other clarifying changes, will give the Department of Social Services enough time to accomplish what the bill seeks to achieve, and ultimately provide for smoother implementation of these good consumer protections.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.