

## **Human Services and Access to Jobs & Justice Legislation June 21, 2016**

Below is a list of Human Services and Access to Jobs & Justice legislation Western Center is tracking and the Location of these bills. Jessica Bartholow and Mike Herald are Western Center's legislative advocates working on these issues. If Western Center has taken a position on a bill, it's noted. All bills that failed in the first house before going to the floor have been removed.

### ***CalFresh, Emergency Food and School Meal Legislation***

[SB 1232 \(Leno\)](#) would simplify and improve transparency in the verification of the of work by requiring counties, when they chose to use electronic employment databases, to use the verification of earned income in way that is both transparent & helpful to low-income workers applying for help. This bill is sponsored by Western Center.

**Location:** Referred to the Assembly Human Services, hearing set for June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[SB 1339 \(Monning\)](#) would improve processing of inter-county transfers for people who receive CalFresh, CalWORKs and Medi-Cal. This bill is co-sponsored by the County Welfare Director Association of California (CWDA) and the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organization.

**Location:** Referred to the Assembly Human Services, hearing set for June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 608 \(Gordon\)](#) would add child nutrition and feeding programs to the list of resources that must be provided to CalFresh applicants with a child in the home. Co-sponsored with the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank and the Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo County.

**Location:** Senate Appropriations.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 1567 \(Campos\)](#) would waive fees and give priority access to state funded afterschool programs for children who are homeless or members of a CalWORKs assistance unit. This bill is sponsored by the Western Center on Law and Poverty and the Children's Defense Fund.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Appropriations.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 1577 \(Eggman\)](#) will expand the state's tax credit for donations of food to qualified nonprofit organizations, such as food banks. This bill is sponsored by the California Association of Food Banks.

**Location:** Referred to Senate Appropriations.

**Position:** Support

[AB 1584 \(Brown & Thurmond\)](#) would reinstate the cost-of-living adjustment for the Supplemental Security Income State Supplemental Portion (SSI/SSP) and increase grant amounts.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Human Services, hearing set for June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 1747 \(Weber\)](#) would address college student hunger by requiring all public colleges to support access to CalFresh and Cash Assistance EBT and CalFresh restaurant meal programs. This bill is co-sponsored by the UC Student Association, the Western Center on Law and Poverty, the San Diego Hunger Advocacy Network, CSU Student Association and the Young Invincibles.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Education Committee & Senate Human Services, hearing set for June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 1770 \(Alejo\)](#) would establish that immigrants and refugees who are legally present would be eligible for CalFresh, provided they meet all other eligibility rules.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Human Services, hearing set for June 28th.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 2054 \(Thurmond\)](#) This bill would require the California Health and Human Services Agency to design and implement the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children (SEBTC) to provide nutrition assistance benefits to eligible households. This bill is sponsored by the California Food Policy Advocates and more information can be found at: <http://cfpa.net/ab2054>

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Human Services, hearing set for June 28th.

**Position:** Support

[AB 2057 \(Stone\)](#) establishes entitlement to CalFresh expedited services for survivors of domestic abuse and exempts them from mandatory employment and training requirements. It also adds domestic violence shelters to the list of locations where the County Human Services Agency must distributed CalFresh Materials. This bill is sponsored by the Women's Foundation of CA, Women's Policy Institute (WPI), CA Partnership to End Domestic Violence and the Western Center on Law and Poverty.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Appropriations.

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[AB 2099 \(Stone\)](#) would establish a method to add a water supplement to the CalFresh EBT benefit for households who have. This bill is sponsored by the California Food Policy Advocates and more information can be found at: <http://cfpa.net/ab2099>

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Appropriations.

**Position:** Support

### ***Access to Jobs and Justice***

[SB 3 \(Leno & Leyva\)](#) would increase the minimum wage. This bill is co-sponsored by the Western Center on Law & Poverty, the Service Employees United International (SIEU) – California State Council, United Food and Commercial Workers – Western State's Council and the Women's Foundation of California.

**Location:** Signed.

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[SB 308 \(Wieckowski\)](#) makes several changes to California bankruptcy law to prevent economic hardship following the filing, including, increase of the auto exemption and the homestead exemption.

**Location:** Assembly Floor Reconsideration.

**Position:** Support

[SB 443 \(Mitchell\)](#) would establish protections for Californians subject to asset forfeiture by ensuring that state law is not circumvented.

**Location:** Assembly Floor Reconsideration.

**Position:** Support

[SB 881 \(Hertzberg\)](#) would require courts to exercise authority to waive or reduce traffic fines and civil assessments for persons on public assistance and to revoke suspensions of driver licenses when a payment plan is agreed upon. This bill is sponsored by Western Center on Law & Poverty.

**Location:** Referred to the Assembly.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[SB 882 \(Hertzberg\)](#) would establish that youth cannot be charged with a penal code violation for failing to pay a transit fare. This bill is sponsored by the Children's Defense Fund, Youth Justice Los Angeles and the Western Center on Law & Poverty.

**Location:** Referred to the Assembly Public Safety, hearing set for June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[SB 984 \(Hueso\)](#) which removes the sunset placed on the Pilot Program for Increased Access to Small Dollar Loans (Pilot Program). The program has been a success, and SB 984 ensures that financially underserved Californians will continue to have access to responsible credit options.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Floor.

**Position:** Support

[SB 1015 \(Leyva\)](#) would remove the sunset for the right of domestic workers to be paid overtime pay after an 8-hour workday or 40-hour workweek.

**Location:** Assembly Labor and Employment Committee.

**Position:** Support

[AB 908 \(Gomez\)](#) extends the length of time that a worker can receive State Disability Insurance (SDI) and Paid Family Leave (PFL) insurance payments and increases the wage replacement in the programs to better support poorer workers who pay into the insurance.

**Location:** Signed.

**Position:** Support

[AB 1840 \(Gipson\)](#) would give priority hiring status to former foster youth and people with prior involvement in youth detention or probation for internships at state department, agencies or other entities.

**Location:** Senate Rules Committee.

**Position:** Support

[AB 2150 \(Santiago\)](#) would implement the national Child Care Block Grant by establishing 12 month certification periods. This bill is sponsored by Parent Voices.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Education, hearing set for June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Position:** Support

[AB 2757 \(Gonzalez\)](#) would phase in a removal of the overtime exemption for farmworkers so they shall be paid overtime pay after an 8-hour workday or 40-hour workweek.

**Location:** Failed on the Assembly Floor.

**Position:** Support

### ***CalWORKs, Child Opportunity & Job Training and Opportunities Legislation***

[SB 23 \(Mitchell\)](#) would repeal the unjust Maximum Family Grant rule of the CalWORKs program. This bill is co-sponsored by Western Center, the East Bay Community Law Center, County Welfare Directors Association of CA, American Civil Liberties Union – CA, Access Women’s Health Justice and CA Latinas for Reproductive Justice.

**Location:** Assembly Floor – Inactive File.

**Position:** Co-Sponsor and Support

[SB 947 \(Pan\)](#) would give flexibility to the County Human Services Agencies when determining whether or not the mandatory application interview for CalWORKs can be completed by phone.

**Location:** Referred to the Assembly.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[SB 1373 \(Stone\)](#) would establish a standardized transportation subsidy for CalWORKs recipients participation in welfare-to-work and a standard school supply subsidy for participants attending post-secondary education.

**Location:** Held in Senate Committee on Appropriations.

**Position:** Support

[AB 492 \(Gonzalez\)](#) would issue a \$50 voucher for every infant enrolled in child care while a parent is participating in the CalWORKs welfare-to-work program.

**Location:** Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee.

**Position:** Support

[AB 702 \(Maienschein\)](#) would remove the requirement that the once-in-a-lifetime, sixteen days of CalWORKs temporary homeless assistance must be used in consecutive days. This bill is co-sponsored by CA Coalition of Welfare Rights Organizations & Western Center on Law & Poverty.

**Location:** Last location Senate Appropriations.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 1742 \(Stone\)](#) would improve the work support benefits of the CalWORKs program by increasing the program's Earned Income Disregard (EID). This bill is sponsored by the Western Center on Law and Poverty and the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Human Services Committee, hearing set for June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 1809 \(Lopez\)](#) would eliminate the CalWORKs Asset Test. This bill is sponsored by EARN and the Western Center on Law and Poverty.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Human Services Committee, hearing set for June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 2062 \(Lopez\)](#) would clarify that an overpayment shall not be issued in the CalWORKs program when a report was submitted and timely denial was not sent.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Appropriations.

**Position:** Support

[AB 2448 \(Burke\)](#) This bill would provide that if a CalWORKs recipient has not received his or her high school diploma or its equivalent, he or she may participate in a high school equivalency program instead of participating in a job search or job club and prohibit the county from requiring the recipient to participate in an assessment before the recipient may engage in a high school equivalency program in satisfaction of welfare-to-work requirements.

**Location:** Senate Floor Consent Calendar – Third Reading.

**Position:** Support

### ***About Western Center on Law and Poverty***

For more information about our legislative priorities or positions in this issue area:

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