

Western Center's 2016 Sponsored Legislation As of June 6, 2016

Following is a list of bills that are being sponsored by Western Center on Law & Poverty to help secure housing, healthcare and a strong safety net for low-income Californians. This is in addition to the many bills that Western Center supports, opposes and seeks to amend.

Housing

[AB 551](#) (Nazarian) would take the first steps towards establishing basic rights and responsibilities for landlords and tenants in connection with bedbug infestations in residential rental property. Co-sponsored with the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.

Status: 2-YEAR BILL

[AB 587](#) (Chau) would create a tax abatement program for those mobilehomes for which title was never properly transferred, giving homeowners a path to bringing title current without paying years of back taxes. Co-sponsored with the Golden State Manufactured-Home Owners League.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 2501](#) (Bloom and Low) would strengthen local government compliance with State Density Bonus Law. Co-sponsored with the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 2502](#) (Mullin and Chiu) would overturn the *Palmer* decision and restore the ability of local governments to fully implement local inclusionary policies. Co-sponsored with the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.

Status: In Assembly Local Government Committee

[AB 2556](#) (Nazarian) would clarify the no net loss provisions of State Density Bonus Law to ensure that local governments and developers can meaningfully comply with replacement housing requirements. Co-sponsored with the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 2819](#) (Chiu) would amend the Code of Civil Procedure to keep court records private in eviction lawsuits unless landlords prevail within 60 days of filing. Co-sponsored with the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[SB 1053](#) (Leno) would amend the Fair Employment and Housing Act to clarify that housing choice vouchers and other types of federal, state, and local housing assistance are a protected source of income, ensuring that landlords cannot deny applicants simply because they receive rental subsidies. Co-sponsored with the Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California.

Status: Held in Appropriations Committee

Health

[AB 1114](#) (Bonilla) would clarify that Medi-Cal and Covered California forms and notices must be translated into the thirteen Medi-Cal threshold languages.

Status: 2-YEAR BILL

[AB 2077](#) (Burke and Bonilla) would require procedures for people to move between Medi-Cal and Covered California without being uninsured.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 2394](#) (E. Garcia) would clarify that nonmedical transportation, including roundtrip transportation for covered Medi-Cal services, is a Medi-Cal benefit.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[SB 33](#) (Hernandez) would limit Medi-Cal estate recovery to long term care costs. Co-sponsored with California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform.

Status: 2-YEAR BILL

[SB 260](#) (Monning) would require County Organized Health Systems – a type of Medi-Cal health plan – to be licensed by the Department of Managed Health Care as other Medi-Cal plans are.

Status: 2-YEAR BILL

[SB 1339](#) (Monning) would improve processing of inter-county transfers for people who receive CalFresh, CalWORKs and Medi-Cal. Co-sponsored with United Ways of California and the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organization.

Status: Passed Senate Floor

CalFresh, Emergency Food and School Meals

[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.

Status: 2-YEAR BILL

[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. Co-sponsored with the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations.

Status: 2-YEAR BILL

[AB 1567](#) (Campos) would waive fees and give priority access to state funded afterschool programs for children who are homeless or are Foster Youth. Co-sponsored with the Children's Defense Fund and 9-to-5 Working Women's Coalition - CA.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[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.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 1742](#) (Stone) would improve the work support benefits of the CalWORKs program by increasing the program's Earned Income Disregard. Co-sponsored with the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 1747](#) (Weber) would address college student hunger by requiring all public colleges to participate in the CalFresh restaurant meal program, as appropriate, establish a fund to support collaboration between food banks and on-campus food pantries and would clarify statute to align with current practice of matching, with federal funds, program costs associated with CalFresh outreach on college campuses. Co-sponsored with the CSU Student Association, UC Student Association, the San Diego Hunger Alliance and Young Invincibles.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 1790](#) (Weber) would ensure that anyone meeting federal work participation rates would not be sanctioned in the CalWORKs program. Co-sponsored with the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations.

Status: Held in Appropriations Committee

[AB 1809](#) (Lopez) would eliminate the CalWORKs Asset Test. Co-sponsored with EARN.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 2057](#) (Stone) would reduce barriers for people applying for CalFresh when fleeing domestic violence. Co-sponsored with the Women's Policy Institute and the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 2151](#) (Chu) would increase CalWORKs special needs food assistance to \$20 and would establish that it be distributed as a food benefit, not cash. It would also provide that a nutritionist, nurse, health practitioner, in addition to a physician, could verify the special dietary need. Co-sponsored with the Women's Policy Institute.

Status: Held in Appropriations Committee

[AB 2768](#) (Thurmond) would provide a tax credit for prepared food donations to soup kitchens and hot food providers. Co-sponsored with Yum! and the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Western States Council.

Status: Held in Appropriations Committee

[SB 904](#) (Hertzberg) would require the state to maximize federally-funded food aid when unemployment is high and reduce harm of the CalFresh Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) three month time limit. Co-sponsored with the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations.

Status: Held in Appropriations Committee

[SB 1232](#) (Leno) would simplify and improve transparency in the verification of work by requiring counties, when they choose to use consumer credit reports, to use the verification of earned income in way that is both transparent & helpful to low-income workers applying for assistance. It would also require state and counties that use the consumer report in public benefit determination to, as required by state consumer law, notify people when the use of a report results in negative action.

Status: Passed Senate Floor

Public Benefits and Access to Jobs and Justice

[AB 1572](#) (Campos) would improve the capacity of low-income students to participate regularly in school and after-school activities, thereby increasing the likelihood of graduation and future success. Co-sponsored with the Children's Defense Fund, 9-to-5 National Association of Working Women, California Branch and the Youth Justice Coalition.

Status: Held in Appropriations Committee

[AB 1584](#) (Brown) – Would increase the SSP payment for the SSI grant in stages until the full amount of the grant exceeded the federal poverty level.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[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. Co-sponsored with the California Immigrant Policy Center.

Status: Passed Assembly Floor

[AB 2631](#) (Santiago) This bill would increase the duration of CalWORKs homeless assistance benefits to 30 days and would delete the limitation on the number of times a recipient may receive homeless assistance or permanent housing assistance benefits.

Status: Held in Appropriations

[SB 3](#) (Leno & Leyva) would increase the minimum wage in California. Co-sponsored with the Service Employees United International – California State Council, United Food and Commercial Workers – Western State's Council and the Women's Foundation of California.

Status: SIGNED

[SB 23](#) (Mitchell) would repeal the Maximum Family Grant rule of the CalWORKs program. Co-sponsored with the East Bay Community Law Center, County Welfare Directors Association, American Civil Liberties Union, Access Women's Health Justice and California Latinas for Reproductive Justice.

Status: 2-YEAR BILL

[SB 876](#) (Liu) would make it illegal to discriminate against people based on their homelessness status. Co-sponsored with the Western Regional Advocacy Project, the Lawyers Committee of the San Francisco Bay Area and Jericho: A Voice for Justice.

Status: Did not get sufficient votes in Policy Committee

[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.

Status: Passed Senate Floor

[SB 882](#) (Hertzberg) would establish that youth cannot be charged with a penal code violation for failing to pay a transit fare. Co-sponsored with the Children's Defense Fund and Youth Justice Los Angeles.

Status: Passed Senate Floor

[SB 941](#) (Mitchell) would repeal law allowing probation departments to collect administrative fees from parents whose children have been placed in juvenile detention or on probation. Co-sponsored with the East Bay Community Law Center, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area and Youth Justice Coalition.

Status: Held in Appropriations Committee

[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.

Status: Passed Senate Floor

Contact Our Sacramento Advocates: For more information about Western Center and our advocacy priorities, go to www.wclp.org.

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