

**Human Services and Economic Justice  
June 29, 2018**

The last day for a bill that is tagged fiscal to pass out of a policy committee of the 2<sup>nd</sup> House is today, Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. Below is a list of Human Services and Economic Justice legislation that was passed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> House and that we are tracking. If Western Center has taken a position, it is also listed.

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

[SB 675 \(Skinner\)](#) would ensure adequate customer service for people purchasing food using Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT). This bill is co-sponsored by Western Center, United Food and Commercial Workers Western State's Council and the California Grocers Association.

**Location:** Assembly Floor

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[SB 900 \(Wiener & Arambula\)](#) would establish the California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot by preparing the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system to accrue, track and issue supplemental benefits that provide CalFresh recipients a dollar-for-dollar match for the purchase of California-grown fruits and vegetables. The bill would also provide grants for local entities to test this system in communities. This bill is co-sponsored by California Food Policy Advocates and SPUR. More info and sample support letter can be found at: <https://cfpa.net/sb900>

**Location:** Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Support

[SB 1138 \(Skinner\)](#) would require food provided to inmates to include the availability of plant-based meals.

**Location:** Re-referred Appropriations Consent Calendar

[AB 1871 \(Bonta\)](#) would ensure that low-income public charter school students are guaranteed access to a free or reduced-price school meal during the schoolday, just like all other low-income K-12 students have been since 1975. This bill is co-sponsored by the California Food Policy Advocates and Western Center. More info and a sample support letter can be found at: <https://cfpa.net/ab1871>.

**Location:** Referred to Senate Committee on Appropriations Suspense File

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[AB 1883 \(Weber\)](#) would exclude the military basic allowance for housing (BAH) for active military from being reported as income when determining eligibility for child care and early education programs.

**Location:** Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[AB 1892 \(Jones-Sawyer\)](#) would extend Transitional CalFresh (TCF) benefits to individuals transitioning from welfare to work. Currently, TCF is only offered to people transitioning from the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, but a broader group of Californians are potentially eligible for this federally funded benefit.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[AB 1894 \(Weber\)](#) would address college student hunger by allowing the California State University (CSU) Chancellor to apply for the CalFresh Restaurant Meal Program (RMP) on all CSU College Campuses even if the

county does not participate in RMP. Co-Sponsored by Western Center, Young Invincibles, Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations and the CSU Student Association.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[AB 1952 \(Mayes\)](#) would AB create a process to bring together food system stakeholders to engage and collaborate at the local, regional and state levels to remove barriers to adequate, nutritious food choices and ensure that a vibrant and sustainable food system is available across all communities statewide.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[AB 1957 \(Berman\)](#) would modernize state laws governing communication for public social services, while ensuring the rights of applicants and recipients are protected. Specifically, this bill would define applicants' and recipients' rights to opt-in to electronic communications and to end electronic communication when they no longer want it. It would also direct counties to maximize electronic means of verifying information.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[AB 2152 \(Weber\)](#) would require the Department of Social Services to define, after consulting with health professionals and other key stakeholders, the number of days that someone would experience hunger before they would be determined "unfit for work," and, therefore, exempt from the CalFresh 3 month time limit for adults deemed able-bodied pursuant to federal law and guidance.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

### ***Economic Justice***

[SB 10 \(Hertzberg\)](#) would reform the money bail system, which discriminates against people who cannot afford bail, to ensure that everyone presumed innocent has the ability to secure a pre-trial release. This bill is co-sponsored by Western Center, the American Civil Liberties Union of California, the Anti-Recidivism Coalition, California Public Defenders Association, Californians for Safety and Justice, Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, Essie Justice Group, SEIU California, and the Silicon Valley De-Bug. For more about money bail and poverty, go to: [http://wclp.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Bail-Reform-and-poverty.FNL .pdf](http://wclp.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Bail-Reform-and-poverty.FNL.pdf)

Join our bail reform coalition: [www.bailreformca.org](http://www.bailreformca.org)

**Location:** Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[SB 298 \(Wieckowski\)](#) will cap how much can be levied from a bank account at one time to ensure that basic needs of the consumer can be met. It does not relieve the consumer of the debt. The bill is co-sponsored by Western Center and the California Low-Income Consumer Coalition.

**Location:** Re-Referred to Assembly Committee on Judiciary

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[SB 607 \(Skinner\)](#) would prevent suspensions for pupils through grade 12 for so-called "willful defiance," which are known to have predominantly impacted pupils of color.

**Location:** Assembly Floor

**Position:** Support

[SB 822 \(Wiener\)](#) would restore net neutrality protections established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under President Obama in 2015 and repealed by the FCC under President Trump in 2017.

**Location:** Re-referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

[SB 998 \(Dodd\)](#) would establish protections from water shut-off for certain vulnerable populations.

**Location:** Re-referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

[SB 1014 \(Skinner\)](#) would require ride sharing companies to transition to zero-emission vehicles over the next ten years.

**Location:** Re-referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

[SB 1135 \(Bradford\)](#) would require that the CARE Utility Assistance Program be made available for people who have incomes below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

**Location:** Re-referred to Appropriations Assembly Committee

**Position:** Support

[SB 1190 \(Skinner\)](#) would require restitution, or victim compensation, to any survivor of state-sponsored sterilization conducted pursuant to eugenics laws that existed in California between 1909 and 1979.

**Location:** Re-referred to Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Support

[SB 1392 \(Mitchell\)](#) which would repeal Penal Code 667.5(b), a sentencing enhancement that adds an additional year of incarceration for each prior prison term or qualifying county jail term.

**Location:** Senate Floor

**Position:** Support

[SB 1393 \(Mitchell\)](#) would remove the 5-year automatic sentence enhancement for people with a prior serious felony conviction, thus restoring the court's discretion in the interest of justice.

**Location:** Assembly Committee on Public Safety

**Position:** Support

[AB 1974 \(Gonzalez Fletcher\)](#) would establish rules for schools when taking action to collect debt against a low-income child, including how they may work from a private, third-party debt collector.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[AB 2138 \(Chiu & Low\)](#) Reforms rules and practices of licensing boards governed by the Department of Consumer Affairs/Business & Professions Code.

**Location:** Re-referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Support

[AB 2392 \(Santiago\)](#) reduces how much tow yards can charge & makes other changes to the towing bill of rights.

**Location:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 2532 \(Jones-Sawyer\)](#) would reduce the number of hours of community service for traffic tickets by setting the rate for community service at twice the state minimum wage.

**Location:** Re-referred to Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Sponsor

[AB 2544 \(Lackey\)](#) would clarify that parking authorities that offer payments plans for parking tickets must offer payment plans to person who got a ticket before the passage of AB 503.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[AB 2876 \(Jones-Sawyer\)](#) would clarify that the removal of a vehicle as authorized by California statute is also required to be constitutionally reasonable based on the specific situation.

**Location:** Re-referred to Senate Appropriations Committee

**Position:** Sponsor

[AB 2946 \(Kalra\)](#) would extend from 6 months to 3 years the length of time a person who believes he or she has been discharged or otherwise discriminated against in violation of any law under the jurisdiction of the Labor Commissioner to file a complaint with the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement.

**Location:** Assembly Floor

**Position:** Support

[AB 2953 \(Limón\)](#) the Auto Title Lending Reform Act, would eliminate the practice of charging triple-digit interest rates on consumer loans that require consumers to pledge their vehicle as security on the loan.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions

**Position:** Support

[AB 2984 \(Limón\)](#) would give the Department of Business Oversight (DBO) greater enforcement tools to protect consumers and promote industry compliance with state law.

**Location:** Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File

**Position:** Support

[AB 3010 \(Limón\)](#) would ensure that the original intent of the Legislature is clear to the industry and other relevant stakeholders and enforced by Department of Business Oversight (DBO) to prevent lenders from extending new payday loans to consumers who have outstanding loans.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions

**Position:** Support

[AB 3207 \(Limón\)](#) would clarify that lead generators performing certain activities on behalf of finance lenders for compensation must obtain a broker's license.

**Location:** Senate Floor

**Position:** Support

### ***Income Assistance, Work Supports & Child Support***

[SB 726 \(Wiener\)](#) make several changes to CalWORKs overpayment recovery policies.

**Location:** Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[SB 926 \(Skinner\)](#) would prevent economic sanctions on CalFresh & CalWORKs applicants and recipients when they voluntarily quit a job or reduce hours if the reason is that they were subject to harassment, discrimination or other violation of rights established in the California Labor Code. It also requires County Human Service Agencies to provide information about labor law protections to workers applying for safety net services.

**Location:** Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Sponsor & Support

[SB 982 \(Mitchell\)](#) would increase the CalWORKs grant to prevent childhood deep poverty and add an inflation adjuster to ensure grants are responsive to the increases in the cost of living.

**Location:** Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[SB 1446 \(Glazer\)](#) would establish that, if a County discovers that an adult recipient of CalWORKs is meeting the federally required minimum average number of hours per week of welfare-to-work participation as required by federal law, the recipient shall be deemed to be in compliance with program requirements.

**Location:** Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Support

[AB 992 \(Arambula\)](#) would establish the CalWORKs Baby Wellness and Family Support Home Visiting Program, a voluntary public health home visiting program for people who are pregnant and new parents.

**Location:** Senate Human Services Committee

**Position:** Co-sponsor & Support

[AB 1428 \(McGuire\)](#) would establish that a minor's application for a work permit shall not be denied due to low grades or poor school attendance during the regular summer vacation if the student is seeking the permit for participation in a government funded youth jobs or job training program.

**Location:** Assembly Floor

**Position:** Co-sponsor & Support

[AB 1921 \(Maienschein\)](#) would remove the consecutive day requirement for temporary housing assistance and allow CalWORKs recipients to use permanent housing assistance payment towards shared housing.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-sponsor & Support

[AB 1992 \(K. Chu\)](#) would make changes economic penalties required by current CalWORKs program when a child in the home is not vaccinated and would improve access to healthcare services.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

[AB 2030 \(Limón\)](#) would require the department to make improvements to application and reporting forms and to computer eligibility files to ensure that disability accommodation or domestic abuse status is immediately visible to county workers each time they are serving a public benefits applicant or recipient.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-sponsor & Support

[AB 2023 \(Caballero\)](#) to make the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit refundable.

**Location:** Senate Floor

**Position:** Support

[AB 2111 \(Quirk\)](#) would allow counties to extend the 12-month exception period for an indigent exemption in the CalWORKs program as allowed in Section 1631 of Title 8 of the United States Code.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Support if amended.

[AB 2269 \(Lackey\)](#) would increase the age that a dependent can receive aid in CalWORKs from 19 to 22 providing that they are still attending high school or the equivalent level of vocational or technical training full-time.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-sponsor & Support

[AB 2313 \(Stone\)](#) would reinforce protections for low-income people who have their benefits stolen through the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-sponsor & Support

[AB 2326 \(Rubio\)](#) would remove add flexibility to the welfare-to-work exemption for a parent or other relative who has primary responsibility caring for a child 24 months of age or under to allow parents to use the months non-consecutively.

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Support

[AB 3200 \(Kalra, Reyes & Thurmond\)](#) would reinstate the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) beginning January 1 of the 2019 calendar year require a maximum aid payment provided to an individual or a married couple to equal 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

**Location:** Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Position:** Co-sponsor & Support

[AB 3224 \(Thurmond\)](#) would codify current federal regulation and state practice by requiring that eligibility workers in CalWORKs, CalFresh and Medi-Cal be done by someone who is a civil servant or merit employee.

**Location:** Senate Floor

**Position:** Co-Sponsor & Support

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

Western Center on Law and Poverty leads the fight in the courts, counties, and capital to secure housing, health care and a strong safety net for low-income Californians. Learn more at: [www.wclp.org](http://www.wclp.org) For more information about these bills or about our legislative priorities or positions in this issue area, contact:

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