



2021 Legislative  
Year-End Report  
*Office of Government Relations*

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Unless otherwise noted on the status as an urgency bill that became effective immediately, the law becomes effective on January 1, 2022

## A Note from the Director

October 2021

Greetings Los Angeles Unified Leadership and Colleagues:

During the first year of the 2021-22 legislative session, the California State Legislature introduced more than 2,400 bills, with the **Office of Government Relations (OGR)** tracking 566 legislative measures that could have the potential impact the District's academic and socio-emotional programs, local policies, finances and operations. Of all bills introduced, 836 were sent to **Governor Gavin Newsom** for consideration. Of those, he signed 770 (92%) and vetoed 66 (7.9%).

In this report, you will find a comprehensive summary of the notable legislation acted upon by the Governor. Over the coming weeks, the OGR will collaborate with District staff to support the implementation of these new laws, many of which will become effective on January 1, 2022.

Despite the uncertainty and challenges created by COVID-19 and the Delta variant, the OGR team advocated effectively throughout the year on bills in the best interest of students. Our advocacy efforts on the state budget aimed to protect and increase state funding for P-12 public education, including new state investments to expand universal Transitional Kindergarten for all four-year olds, permanent increases to the LCFF concentration grants, additional funding for Community Schools and discretionary funding to support accelerated student learning, safety measures and the re-opening of school sites. These and other tangible outcomes resulting from Los Angeles Unified's advocacy is illustrated throughout the education trailer budget bills – **Assembly Bill 130** and **Assembly Bill 167**.

Bills sponsored by Los Angeles Unified and signed by Governor Newsom:

- **AB 306 (O'Donnell) School Districts: Employee Housing**  
Clarifies that school district construction projects for the purpose of housing teachers and school district employees are not required to receive approval from the Division of State Architect.
- **AB 815 (Rivas) School Nurses Credentialing**  
Authorizes the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to approve a school nurse credentialing program offered by a local educational agency of 40,000 ADA or higher

On behalf of the OGR team – Legislative Advocates **Olga Shilo** and **Deborah Bautista Zavala**, Legislative Liaison **Colleen Pagter** and Senior Secretary **Laura Matz** – it is our privilege to represent Los Angeles Unified and to serve as its voice in the policymaking process.

We look forward to working with all of you in the coming year.



Martha Alvarez  
Director of Legislative Affairs and Government Relations  
Los Angeles Unified School District

## Sponsored Bills

### **AB 306 (O'Donnell D) School districts and community college districts: employee housing.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 49, Signed on July 9, 2021

**Summary:** The Field Act requires the Department of General Services to supervise the design and construction of any school building, including both school district and community college district buildings, or, if the estimated cost exceeds \$100,000, the reconstruction or alteration of or addition to any school building, to ensure that plans and specifications comply with the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to the act and with relevant building standards, and to ensure that the work of construction has been performed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. Existing law defines "school building" for these purposes, and excludes from that definition certain buildings. Existing law requires the Department of General Services to approve the plans, specifications, and methods of construction of certain factory-built school buildings. Existing law requires the Department of General Services, for purposes relating to access and use by persons with disabilities, to issue a written approval of the plans and specifications of certain buildings and facilities, as provided. This bill would exclude from these requirements any building or facility that serves or is intended to serve as residential housing for school district and community college district teachers and employees, and their families.

### **AB 815 (Rivas, Luz D) School nurses: credentialing.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 668, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Summary:** Current law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to, among other duties, establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials, certificates, and permits. Current law sets forth the minimum requirements for a services credential with a specialization in health for a school nurse, which include, among other requirements, a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited institution for a preliminary credential and, for a professional credential, an additional year of coursework beyond a baccalaureate degree in a program approved by the commission. This bill would instead require the baccalaureate or higher degree to be from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. The bill would authorize the commission to approve a program offered by a local educational agency for one year of coursework beyond the baccalaureate degree, as provided.



## Accountability

### **AB 599 (Jones-Sawyer D) Public schools: accountability: county superintendents of schools.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 667, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Under current law, county superintendents of schools superintend the schools of that county, maintain responsibility for the fiscal oversight of each school district in that county, and visit and examine each school in the county at reasonable intervals to observe its operation and learn of its problems. This bill would recast and revise the duties of the county superintendent. The bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction, commencing with 2021–22 fiscal year, to identify a list of schools pursuant to a specified procedure based on the schools identified for comprehensive support and improvement and additional targeted support and improvement or as low-performing pursuant to specified federal laws, and to additionally include on the list schools where 15% or more of the teachers are holders of a permit, certificate, or any other authorization that is a lesser certification than a preliminary or clear California teaching credential.

## Attendance/Truancy

### **AB 516 (Dahle, Megan R) Pupil attendance: excused absences: cultural ceremonies or events.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 281, Signed on September 24, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law, notwithstanding the requirement that each person between 6 and 18 years of age who is not otherwise exempted is subject to compulsory full-time education, requires a pupil to be excused from school for specified types of absences, including, among others, if the absence was due to the pupil's illness. This bill would include as another type of required excused absence an absence that is for the purpose of participating in a cultural ceremony or event. The bill would define "cultural" for these purposes to mean relating to the habits, practices, beliefs, and traditions of a certain group of people.

### **SB 14 (Portantino D) Pupil health: school employee and pupil training: excused absences: youth mental and behavioral health.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 672, Signed on October 8, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Sought Amendments

**Summary:** Current law requires a pupil to be excused from school for specified types of absences, including, among others, if the absence was due to the pupil's illness. This bill would include, within the meaning of an absence due to a pupil's illness, an absence for the benefit of the pupil's mental or behavioral health. This bill, contingent on an appropriation, would require the State Department of Education, on or before January 1, 2023, to recommend best practices and identify evidence-based, as defined, and evidence-informed training programs for schools to address youth behavioral health, including, but not necessarily limited to, staff and pupil training.

## **Campus Safety**

### **AB 490 (Gipson D) Law enforcement agency policies: arrests: positional asphyxia.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 407, Signed on September 30, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would prohibit a law enforcement agency from authorizing techniques or transport methods that involve a substantial risk of positional asphyxia, as defined. By requiring local agencies to amend use of force policies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

### **SB 2 (Bradford D) Peace officers: certification: civil rights.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 409, Signed on September 30, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Under current law, the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act, if a person or persons, whether or not acting under color of law, interferes or attempts to interfere, by threats, intimidation, or coercion, with the exercise or enjoyment by any individual or individuals of rights secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or of the rights secured by the Constitution or laws of this state, the Attorney General, or any district attorney or city attorney, is authorized to bring a civil action for injunctive and other appropriate equitable relief in the name of the people of the State of California, in order to protect the exercise or enjoyment of the right or rights secured. Current law also authorizes an action brought by the Attorney General, or any district attorney or city attorney, to seek a civil penalty of \$25,000. Current law also allows an individual whose exercise or enjoyment of rights has been interfered with to prosecute a civil action for damages on their own behalf. This bill would eliminate certain immunity provisions for peace officers and custodial officers, or public entities employing peace officers or custodial officers sued under the act.

## **Career Technical Education**

### **AB 643 (Ramos D) Apprenticeship programs: career fairs.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 324, Signed on September 28, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law provides for the establishment of apprenticeship programs in various trades, to be approved by the Chief of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards within the Department of Industrial Relations in any trade in the state or in a city or trade area whenever the apprentice training needs justify the establishment. This bill would require a school district or school to notify each apprenticeship program in the same county as the school district or school of a career or college fair it is planning to hold, as specified.

## Classified Employees

### **AB 289 (Calderon D) Classified school employees: merit system: adoption and termination.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 88, Signed on July 16, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Current law authorizes both the adoption and termination of a merit system in a school district or community college district by a majority vote of its classified employees or by a majority of the voting electors of the school district or community college district, as provided. Upon the filing of a petition for the adoption or for the termination of the merit system for classified employees of a school district or community college district, current law requires the governing board of the district to perform specified activities in response, including, among others, devising an identification system to ensure against fraud in the balloting process, and forming a tabulation committee. This bill would require the devised identification system to also ensure ballot secrecy and would prohibit a representative of the district from making any marks upon the ballot envelope or ballot of any employee, except the bill would allow the tabulation committee to adopt a system of uniformly stamping in a consistent manner and in the same location on all ballots received or all ballots counted, or both of those, to help ensure an accurate count.

### **AB 438 (Reyes D) School employees: classified employees: layoff notice and hearing.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 665, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Positon:** Watch

**Summary:** Would revise and recast provisions relating to the layoff of classified employees of school districts and community college districts to require certain notices and opportunities for a hearing when a permanent classified employee's services will not be required for the ensuing year due to lack of work or lack of funds. The bill would, for the purposes of specified notice and hearing rights, define "permanent classified employee" to include both an employee who was permanent at the time the notice or right to a hearing was required and an employee who became permanent after the date of the required notice. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature in enacting the bill to provide permanent classified school employees and those who become permanent classified school employees with the same rights to notice and hearing with respect to layoffs as are provided to certificated employees of school districts, including teachers and administrators, and academic employees of community college districts. If classified positions must be eliminated as a result of the expiration of a specially funded program, the bill would require written notice of the layoff date and certain rights be given to the classified employees not less than 60 days before the effective layoff date.

## **Commission on Teacher Credentialing**

### **AB 320 (Medina D) Teacher preparation programs: regionally accredited institutions.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chaptered Number 663, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to, among other duties, establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials, certificates, and permits. This bill would define “regionally accredited,” as that term is applied to institutions of higher education with teacher preparation programs, as either an institution that has been approved or recognized by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the Higher Learning Commission, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, the New England Commission of Higher Education, or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, or an institution of higher education that held pre-accreditation status at the time the degree of an applicant for a credential was conferred, if that institution achieved full regional accreditation status within 5 years of earning pre-accreditation status.

### **AB 898 (Lee D) Criminal records: automatic conviction record relief.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 202, Signed on September 22, 2021

**Position:** Oppose Unless Amended

**Summary:** Would require the Department of Justice, in cases where probation has been transferred, to electronically submit notice of conviction record relief to both the transferring court and any subsequent receiving court. The bill would also require a receiving court that reduces a felony to a misdemeanor or dismisses a conviction under specified provisions to provide a disposition report to the department with the original case number from the transferring court. If probation was transferred multiple times, the bill would require the department to electronically submit notice to all involved courts in a mutually agreed upon format. The bill would further require any court receiving notice of a reduction or dismissal to update its records to reflect the same. The bill requires the receiving court to provide a receipt of records from the transferring court, including the new case number. The bill would require the transferring court to report to the department that probation was transferred and identify the receiving court and new case number, if applicable.

### **SB 488 (Rubio D) Teacher credentialing: reading instruction.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 678, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Current law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to, among other duties, establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials, certificates, and permits. Current law requires the commission to develop, adopt, and administer a reading instruction competence assessment consisting of one or more instruments to measure an individual’s knowledge, skill, and ability relative to effective reading instruction, as provided. Current law requires the requirements for the issuance of the preliminary



multiple subject teaching credential to include successful passage of one of specified components of the reading instruction competence assessment. This bill would additionally authorize the passage of a combination of those specified components, as approved by the commission to meet that requirement, and would extend these requirements to the issuance of a preliminary education specialist credential.

## **Curriculum and Instruction**

### **AB 104 (Gonzalez, Lorena D) Pupil instruction: retention, grade changes, and exemptions.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 41, Signed on July 1, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Seek Amendments

**Summary:** Would, for the 2021–22 academic year, require a school district, county office of education, or charter school to implement a supplemental policy regarding the retention of pupils who, in the 2020–21 academic year, received deficient grades, as specified, for at least 1/2 of the pupil’s coursework, except for pupils enrolled in grade 12 during the 2020–21 academic year. The bill would require a school district, county office of education, or charter school, as part of that policy and within 30 calendar days of receiving a written retention consultation request from a parent, to conduct the consultation with the parent, the pupil, the administrator, and a teacher, and would require the consultation to include a discussion of all available learning recovery options, research on the effects of retention and the benefits of particular interventions and supports, and consideration of the pupil’s academic data and any other information relevant to whether retention is in the pupil’s best interests, academically and socially. The bill would require a retention decision to be consistent with a pupil’s individualized education program

### **SB 224 (Portantino D) Pupil instruction: mental health education.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 675, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would require each school district, county office of education, state special school, and charter school that offers one or more courses in health education to pupils in middle school or high school to include in those courses instruction in mental health that meets the requirements of the bill, as specified. The bill would require that instruction to include, among other things, reasonably designed instruction on the overarching themes and core principles of mental health. The bill would require that instruction and related materials to, among other things, be appropriate for use with pupils of all races, genders, sexual orientations, and ethnic and cultural backgrounds, pupils with disabilities, and English learners.

## Early Childhood Education

### **AB 1294 (Quirk D) Childcare: individualized county childcare subsidy plans.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 497, Signed on October 5, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law provides that the Early Education Act has as one of its purposes the provision of an inclusive and cost-effective preschool program that provides high-quality learning experiences, coordinated services, and referrals for families to access health and social-emotional support services through full- and part-time programs. Existing law authorizes the Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Marin, Monterey, San Benito, San Diego, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma, as individual pilot projects, to develop an individualized county childcare subsidy plan, as provided. Current law concludes that pilot program for the County of Santa Clara on July 1, 2022, and concludes the pilot programs for the remaining counties on July 1, 2023. This bill would authorize the of Santa Clara to continue the individualized county childcare subsidy plan initially developed and approved under the pilot project described above until January 1, 2023.

### **AB 1363 (Rivas, Luz D) Preschool: dual language learners.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 498, Signed on October 5, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** The Early Education Act, has as one of its purposes the provision of an inclusive and cost-effective preschool program that provides high-quality learning experiences, coordinated services, and referrals for families to access health and social-emotional support services through full- and part-time programs. The act requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop standards for the implementation of high-quality preschool programs and requires that indicators of quality include, among other things, program activities and services that meet the cultural and linguistic needs of children and families. This bill would require the above-described quality indicator to include program activities and services that meet the need of dual language learners for support in the development of their home language and English.

### **SB 393 (Hurtado D) Migrant Childcare and Development Programs.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 499, Signed on October 5, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Department of Social Services to administer all migrant childcare and development programs, including the Migrant Alternative Payment Program. Current law requires children of migrant agricultural worker families, as defined, to be enrolled in child development programs on the basis of specified priorities. This bill would prohibit payments made by the Migrant Alternative Payment Program from exceeding the applicable market rate ceiling. The bill would require the reimbursement for the Migrant Alternative Payment Program to include the cost of childcare paid to childcare providers plus the administrative and support services costs of the alternative payment program, not to exceed an amount equal to 21% of the total contract amount, as specified. The bill would make related findings and declarations.

## **Facilities Design, Construction and Maintenance**

### **AB 100 (Holden D) Drinking water: endpoint devices: lead content.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 692, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The California Safe Drinking Water Act requires the State Water Resources Control Board to administer provisions relating to the regulation of drinking water to protect public health. Current law prohibits, with certain exceptions, the use of any pipe, pipe or plumbing fitting or fixture, solder, or flux that is not lead free in the installation or repair of any public water system or any plumbing in a facility providing water for human consumption. Current law defines “lead free” for purposes of conveying or dispensing water for human consumption to mean not more than 0.2% lead when used with respect to solder and flux and not more than a weighted average of 0.25% lead when used with respect to the wetted surfaces of pipes and pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures. This bill would, commencing January 1, 2023, prohibit a person from manufacturing, and offering for sale in the state, an endpoint device, as defined, that does not meet a certain lead leaching standard. The bill would, commencing July 1, 2023, prohibit a person from introducing into commerce or offering for sale in the state an endpoint device that does not meet that lead leaching standard.

### **AB 464 (Mullin D) Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts: allowable facilities and projects.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 25, Signed on June 28, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Current law authorizes the legislative body of a city or a county to establish an enhanced infrastructure financing district to finance public capital facilities or other specified projects of communitywide significance that provide significant benefits to the district or the surrounding community, including, but not limited to, the acquisition, construction, or repair of industrial structures for private use. This bill would include, in the list of facilities and projects the district may fund, the acquisition, construction, or repair of commercial structures by the small business, as defined, occupant of such structures, if certain conditions are met, and facilities in which nonprofit community organizations provide health, youth, homeless, and social services.

### **AB 571 (Mayes I) Planning and zoning: density bonuses: affordable housing.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 346, Signed on September 28, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** The Density Bonus Law requires a city or county to provide a developer that proposes a housing development in the city or county with a density bonus and other incentives or concessions for the production of lower income housing units, or for the donation of land within the development, if the developer agrees to, among other things, construct a specified percentage of units for very low income, low-income, or moderate-income households or qualifying residents, including lower income students. Current law requires the amount of a density bonus and the number of incentives or concessions a qualifying developer receives to be pursuant to a certain formula based on the total

number of units in the housing development, as specified. This bill would prohibit affordable housing impact fees, including inclusionary zoning fees and in-lieu fees, from being imposed on a housing development's affordable units.

**AB 602 (Grayson D) Development fees: impact fee nexus study.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 347, Signed on September 28, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires a city, county, or special district that has an internet website to make available on its internet website certain information, as applicable, including its current schedule of fees and exactions. This bill, among other things, would require, on and after January 1, 2022, a local agency that conducts an impact fee nexus study to follow specific standards and practices, including, but not limited to, (1) that prior to the adoption of an associated development fee, an impact fee nexus study be adopted, (2) that the study identify the existing level of service for each public facility, identify the proposed new level of service, and include an explanation of why the new level of service is necessary, and (3) if the study is adopted after July 1, 2022, either calculate a fee levied or imposed on a housing development project proportionately to the square footage of the proposed units, or make specified findings explaining why square footage is not an appropriate metric to calculate the fees.

**AB 819 (Levine D) California Environmental Quality Act: notices and documents: electronic filing and posting.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 97, Signed on July 16

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** CEQA requires, if an environmental impact report is required, the lead agency to mail a notice of determination to each responsible agency, the Office of Planning and Research, and public agencies with jurisdiction over natural resources affected by the project. CEQA requires the lead agency to provide notice to the public and to organizations and individuals who have requested notices that the lead agency is preparing an environmental impact report, negative declaration, or specified determination. CEQA requires notices for an environmental impact report to be posted in the office of the county clerk of each county in which the project is located. This bill would instead require the lead agency to mail or email those notices, and to post them on the lead agency's internet website. The bill would also require notices of an environmental impact report to be posted on the internet website of the county clerk of each county in which the project is located.

**AB 846 (Low D) Local Agency Public Construction Act: job order contracting.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 303, Signed on September 24, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Local Agency Public Construction Act, authorizes job order contracting for school districts and community college districts until January 1, 2022. Current law requires job order contractors to submit a questionnaire to the school district or community college district containing specified information verified under oath. This bill would change the January 1, 2022, repeal date to January 1, 2027, thereby extending authorization for job order contracting for school districts and community college districts indefinitely, and make conforming changes.

**[AB 1390 \(Boerner Horvath D\)](#) State lands: school and lieu lands.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 715, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law grants to the State Lands Commission control over specified public lands in the state, including indemnity lands selected in lieu of specified land granted to the state by the United States for the use of public schools that was lost. Current law requires the commission to prepare a master plan for all school and lieu lands under its jurisdiction. Current law requires the commission to obtain a statement from the United States Land Office after the survey of any township by the United States, as specified. This bill would repeal the above requirements.

**[SB 10 \(Wiener D\)](#) Planning and zoning: housing development: density.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 163, Signed on September 16, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would, notwithstanding any local restrictions on adopting zoning ordinances, authorize a local government to adopt an ordinance to zone any parcel for up to 10 units of residential density per parcel, at a height specified in the ordinance, if the parcel is located in a transit-rich area or an urban infill site, as those terms are defined. The bill would prohibit a local government from adopting an ordinance pursuant to these provisions on or after January 1, 2029. The bill would specify that an ordinance adopted under these provisions, and any resolution to amend the jurisdiction's General Plan, ordinance, or other local regulation adopted to be consistent with that ordinance, is not a project for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act. The bill would prohibit an ordinance adopted under these provisions from super ceding a local restriction enacted or approved by a local initiative that designates publicly owned land as open-space land or for park or recreational purposes.

**[SB 290 \(Skinner D\)](#) Density Bonus Law: qualifications for incentives or concessions: student housing for lower income students: moderate-income persons and families: local government constraints.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 340, Signed on September 28, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires the amount of a density bonus and the number of incentives or concessions a qualifying developer receives to be pursuant to a certain formula based on the total number of units in the housing development, as specified. This bill would require a unit designated to satisfy the inclusionary zoning requirements of a city or county to be included in the total number of units on which a density bonus and the number of incentives or concessions are based. The bill would require a city or county to grant one incentive or concession for a student housing development project that will include at least 20% of the total units for lower income students.

**[SB 727 \(Leyva D\)](#) Labor-related liabilities: direct contractor.**

**Status:** 9Chaptered, Chapter Number 338, Signed on September 27, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires, for contracts entered into on or after January 1, 2018, a direct contractor, as defined, making or taking a contract in the state for the erection,



construction, alteration, or repair of a building, structure, or other private work, to assume, and be liable for, any debt owed to a wage claimant or third party on the wage claimant's behalf, incurred by a subcontractor at any tier acting under, by, or for the direct contractor for the wage claimant's performance of labor included in the subject of the original contract. Current law limits the direct contractor's liability under those provisions to extend only to any unpaid wage, fringe or other benefit payment or contribution, including interest owed and provides that liability does not extend to penalties or liquidated damages. This bill would extend, for contracts entered into on or after January 1, 2022, the direct contractor's liability to penalties, liquidated damages, and interest owed by the subcontractor on account of the performance of the labor, except as provided.

**SB 791 (Cortese D) California Surplus Land Unit.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 366, Signed on September 28, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, establish the California Surplus Land Unit within the Department of Housing and Community Development with the primary purpose of facilitating the development and construction of residential housing on local surplus land, as defined. In this regard, the bill would authorize the unit to, among other things, facilitate agreements between housing developers and local agencies that seek to dispose of surplus land; provide advice, technical assistance, and consultative and technical service to local agencies with surplus land and developers that seek to develop housing on the surplus land; and collaborate with specified state agencies to assist housing developers and local agencies with obtaining grants, loans, tax credits, credit enhancements, and other types of financing that facilitate the construction of housing on surplus land.

## **Foster and Homeless Youth**

**AB 27 (Rivas, Luz D) Homeless children and youths and unaccompanied youths: reporting.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 394, Signed on September 29, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Under current state law, public schools, including charter schools, and county offices of education are required to immediately enroll a homeless child or youth seeking enrollment, except as specified. Current law requires a local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths to ensure that public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated in schools within the liaison's local educational agency that provide services pursuant to the act. This bill would require a local educational agency to ensure that each school within the local educational agency identifies all homeless children and youths and unaccompanied youths, as defined, enrolled at the school.

**[AB 366 \(Rubio, Blanca D\)](#) Foster youth: placement of siblings.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 581, Signed on October 6,

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Department of Social Services to adopt standards pertaining to the home environment and permanency assessments of a resource family according to specified standards, including that the total number of children residing in the home of a resource family be no more than the total number of children the resource family can properly care for, regardless of status, and may not exceed 6 children, except as specified. Current law requires the court to suspend sibling interaction if it determines by clear and convincing evidence that sibling interaction is detrimental to the well-being of any of the siblings. This bill would prohibit the physical capacity of the home from being the sole reason to deny placement of a sibling group if each child in the home has an age-appropriate place to sleep and there are no other safety risks.

**[AB 592 \(Friedman D\)](#) Foster youth: transitional housing.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 702, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The California Community Care Facilities Act requires the State Department of Social Services to license and regulate transitional housing placement providers pursuant to the act. Under current law, a transitional housing placement provider is an organization licensed by the department to provide transitional housing to foster children at least 16 years of age and to non-minor dependents to promote their transition to adulthood. Current law requires a transitional housing unit to meet certain housing and supervision requirements, which may include a host family certified by a transitional housing placement provider with whom a participant lives in an apartment, single-family dwelling, or condominium. This bill would require a transitional housing unit with a host family to include supervised transitional housing services provided by the licensed transitional housing placement provider. With respect to a transitional housing placement program serving non-minor dependents, the bill would additionally authorize certain entities, including a resource family approved by a foster family agency or a county, a licensed foster family home, a certified family home, an approved relative caregiver, or a nonrelative extended family member of a participant to operate as a host family.

**[AB 1055 \(Ramos D\)](#) Foster youth: tribal pupils and voluntarily placed children.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 287, Signed on September 24, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires funding for the public school financing system pursuant to the local control funding formula to include, in addition to a base grant, supplemental and concentration grant add-ons that are based on the percentage of pupils who are unduplicated pupils, which is defined to include English learners, foster youth, or pupils eligible for free or reduced-price meals, as specified, served by the local educational agency. Current law defines a foster youth for these purposes to include a dependent child of the court of an Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization who is the subject of a petition filed in the tribal court pursuant to the tribal court's jurisdiction in accordance with the tribe's law, if the child would also meet specified state law standards describing when a child may be adjudged a dependent child of a juvenile court. This bill would delete

the requirement that a dependent tribal child also meet specified state law standards for purposes of the definition of foster youth for purposes of the local control funding formula. The bill would add children who are subjects of voluntary placement agreements to the definition of foster youth for purposes of the local control funding formula.

**[AB 1140 \(Rivas, Robert D\)](#) Foster care: rights.**

**Status:** 9Chaptered, Chapter Number 297, Signed on September 24, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law provides for the licensing and regulation of community care facilities, including foster family homes and group homes, by the State Department of Social Services, and requires the department to ensure that licensed or certified foster care facilities and providers accord children and non-minor dependents in foster care their personal rights. Current law establishes the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson to, among other things, investigate and attempt to resolve complaints made by or on behalf of children placed in foster care, related to their care, placement, or services. This bill would specify that these duties of the department and the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson include children who are placed in residential facilities and homes by the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

**[SB 400 \(Jones R\)](#) Homeless children and youths: local educational agencies: collaboration, training, and reporting.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 400, Signed on September 20, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires a state plan submitted for the receipt of the grant to include assurances that local educational agencies will designate an appropriate staff person to act as a local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths and a description of how the state will ensure that local educational agencies and their liaisons will comply with specified requirements of the act, including the identification of homeless children and youths. This bill would require a liaison for homeless children and youths of a local educational agency, as defined to include a school district, county office of education, charter school, or special education local plan area, to ensure the identification by school personnel of those children and youths through outreach and coordination activities with other organizations and the referral of services to homeless families and homeless children and youth.

## **Governance and Elections**

**[AB 37 \(Berman D\)](#) Elections: vote by mail ballots.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 312, Signed on September 27, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires county elections officials to mail a ballot to every registered voter for all elections proclaimed or conducted prior to January 1, 2022. Current law requires county elections officials to use a specified Secretary of State vote by mail tracking system or a system that meets the same specifications. This bill would extend the

requirements to mail a ballot to every registered voter to all elections and apply them to all local elections officials. This bill would require a vote by mail tracking system to be accessible to voters with disabilities. The bill would also make various conforming and technical changes.

**[AB 361 \(Rivas, Robert D\)](#) Open meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 165, Signed on September 16, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Would, until January 1, 2024, authorize a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act when a legislative body of a local agency holds a meeting during a declared state of emergency, as that term is defined, when state or local health officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, during a proclaimed state of emergency held for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and during a proclaimed state of emergency when the legislative body has determined that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, as provided.

**[AB 473 \(Chau D\)](#) California Public Records Act.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 614, Signed on October 7, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The California Public Records Act requires state and local agencies to make their records available for public inspection, unless an exemption from disclosure applies. This bill would recodify and reorganize the provisions of the act. The bill would include provisions to govern the effect of recodification and state that the bill is intended to be entirely non-substantive in effect. The bill would contain related legislative findings and declarations. The bill would become operative on January 1, 2023.

**[AB 474 \(Chau D\)](#) California Public Records Act: conforming revisions.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 615, Signed on October 7, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would enact various conforming and technical changes related to another bill, AB 473, which recodifies and reorganizes the California Public Records Act. This bill would only become operative if AB 473 is enacted and reorganizes and makes other non-substantive changes to the California Public Records Act that become operative on January 1, 2023. The bill would also specify that any other bill enacted by the Legislature during the 2021 calendar year that takes effect on or before January 1, 2022, and that affects a provision of this bill shall prevail over this act, except as specified.

**[AB 824 \(Bennett D\)](#) Local educational agencies: county boards of education:  
governing boards of school districts: governing bodies of charter  
schools: pupil members.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 669, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would authorize county boards of education and charter schools to also appoint one or more high school pupils as members of their governing bodies in response

to petitions from high school pupils enrolled in their county, as specified, or in their charter school, as appropriate. The bill would require policies and procedures for the selection of pupils to serve on a county board of education to ensure and protect the privacy of each pupil, and of the parents or guardians of each pupil, involved in proceedings before the county board of education acting in its capacity as an appellate body.

**[SB 274 \(Wieckowski D\)](#) Local government meetings: agenda and documents.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 763, Signed on October 9, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Ralph M. Brown Act requires meetings of the legislative body of a local agency to be open and public and also requires regular and special meetings of the legislative body to be held within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, with specified exceptions. Current law authorizes a person to request that a copy of an agenda, or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet, of any meeting of a legislative body be mailed to that person. This bill would require a local agency with an internet website, or its designee, to email a copy of, or website link to, the agenda or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet if the person requests that the items be delivered by email. If a local agency determines it to be technologically infeasible to send a copy of the documents or a link to a website that contains the documents by email or by other electronic means, the bill would require the legislative body or its designee to send by mail a copy of the agenda or a website link to the agenda and to mail a copy of all other documents constituting the agenda packet, as specified.

**[SB 442 \(Newman D\)](#) School districts and community college districts: governing board elections: charter cities.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 139, Signed on July 23, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law authorizes, in any school district or community college district, a county committee on school district organization to establish trustee areas, rearrange the boundaries of trustee areas, abolish trustee areas, and increase to 7 or decrease to 5 the number of members of a governing board, or to adopt an alternative method of electing governing board members, as specified, except in a school district governed by a board of education provided for in the charter of a city or city and county. This bill would delete the exception for a school district governed by a board of education provided for in the charter of a city or city and county, for purposes of that provision.

**[SB 590 \(Allen D\)](#) 2022 statewide primary election: terms of office.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 107, Signed on July 16, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law, Chapter 111 of the Statutes of 2020, moved the date of the statewide direct primary election in even-numbered years in which there is no presidential primary election from the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June. Current law authorizes elections for certain local offices to be held on the day of the statewide direct primary election. This bill would extend any term of office set to expire in March or April 2022, where the next scheduled regular election for



that office has been consolidated with the 2022 statewide primary election, until the certification of election results from the 2022 statewide primary election.

## **Graduation Requirements**

### **[AB 101 \(Medina D\)](#) Pupil instruction: high school graduation requirements: ethnic studies.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chaptered Number 661, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Current law requires the Instructional Quality Commission to develop, and the State Board of Education to adopt, modify, or revise, a model curriculum in ethnic studies. Current law also encourages each school district and charter school that maintains any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, and that does not otherwise offer a standards-based ethnic studies curriculum to offer, beginning in the school year following the adoption of the model curriculum, a course of study in ethnic studies based on the model curriculum. This bill would add the completion of a one-semester course in ethnic studies, meeting specified requirements, to the graduation requirements commencing with pupils graduating in the 2029–30 school year, including for pupils enrolled in a charter school. The bill would expressly authorize local educational agencies, including charter schools, to require a full-year course in ethnic studies at their discretion.

### **[AB 945 \(Ramos D\)](#) Pupils: adornments at school graduation ceremonies: task force.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 285, Signed on September 24, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would establish a 10-member task force, convened by the State Department of Education, to gather certain information and develop recommendations for best practices, protocols, proposed legislation, and other policies that will address how to comprehensively implement all aspects of existing law related to wearing traditional tribal regalia or recognized objects of religious or cultural significance as an adornment at school graduation ceremonies. The bill would require the task force, on or before April 1, 2023, to submit a report to the Legislature on that information and those recommendations. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2024.

## **Higher Education**

### **[AB 417 \(McCarty D\)](#) Rising Scholars Network: justice-involved students.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 558, Signed on October 6, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would authorize the office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to establish a program, named the Rising Scholars Network, to enter into agreements with up to 50 community colleges to provide additional funds for services in support of postsecondary education for justice-involved students, as defined. The bill would require a community college district that wishes to participate in the Rising Scholars Network to apply to the board of governors for funding pursuant to these provisions, as provided, and would require the board of governors to adopt regulations for the Rising

Scholars Network that fulfill certain goals and guidance. The bill would require the board of governors, on or before December 31, 2023, and every 2 years thereafter, to submit a report, as specified, describing its efforts to serve justice-involved students, and including recommendations on whether and how the Rising Scholars Network can be expanded to all community college districts and campuses.

**[AB 469 \(Reyes D\)](#) Pupil instruction: financial aid applications.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 560, Signed on October 6, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Current law requires the Student Aid Commission, on or before July 1, 2022, to adopt regulations that include, but are not limited to, model opt-out forms and acceptable use policies for the purpose of providing guidance with applicable state laws. Current law requires the school district, county office of education, or charter school to exempt a pupil or the pupil's parent or legal guardian from completing a form if the local educational agency determines the pupil is unable to complete the form, and prohibits a pupil's ability to graduate from being affected by a pupil's failure to fill out a form. This bill would require, on or before September 1, 2022, and each year thereafter, the commission and the State Department of Education to facilitate the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and the form established for purposes of the California Dream Act, by requiring the department to share the current school year's roster of pupils with the commission, and requiring the commission to share and match data on pupil completion of financial aid forms, as specified.

**[AB 914 \(Weber, Akilah D\)](#) Public postsecondary education: California State University: proficiency level of entering students.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 564, Signed on October 6, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would require the California State University to provide specified information to the Legislature about the placement of freshmen at each of its campuses for purposes of certain general education requirements in one report to be submitted by April 1 of each year. This placement information would include the numbers of freshmen at each campus, the freshmen's levels of general education written communication and mathematics and quantitative reasoning placement, an analysis of the factors used by the university in its determination of freshmen's levels of that placement, an analysis of any equity gaps by income, race, or ethnicity within and across the university's levels of that placement, and the university's plan to address any such gaps.

**[AB 927 \(Medina D\)](#) Public postsecondary education: community colleges: statewide baccalaureate degree program.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 565, Signed on October 6, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would extend the operation of the statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program indefinitely. The bill would remove the requirements that the program consist of a maximum of 15 community college district programs and for a student to commence a program by the end of the 2022–23 academic year. The bill would require a community college district seeking approval to offer a baccalaureate degree program to provide

evidence of unmet workforce needs to the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, as provided.

**ACR 20 (Medina D) Financial Aid Awareness Month.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 11, Signed on March 25, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** This measure would proclaim the month of February 2021 as Financial Aid Awareness Month. The measure would urge the Legislature to use its institutional role and resources to raise awareness of the importance of student financial aid and mobilize efforts to increase completion rates of financial aid applications to maximize the state's investment in its students, especially low-income and first-generation students.

**SB 737 (Limón D) California Student Opportunity and Access Program.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 575, Signed on October 6, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law establishes the Student Aid Commission and assigns to it numerous duties with respect to student financial aid programs, including administration of the Student Opportunity and Access Program. Under this program, the commission may apportion funds for the support of projects designed to increase accessibility of postsecondary educational opportunities for certain elementary and secondary school pupils. Current law requires each project to be proposed and operated through a consortium, as specified, and requires at least 30% or the equivalent of each project grant to be allocated for stipends to peer advisers and tutors meeting specified criteria. This bill, among other things, would instead authorize the commission to apportion funds under the program to projects designed to increase accessibility of postsecondary educational opportunities and financial aid for pupils from underserved communities who meet specified criteria.

**SJR 1 (Allen D) Student loan debt.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 147, Signed on September 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would urge the President of the United States to protect student loan borrowers by taking executive action to cancel up to \$50,000 of student loan debt per borrower.

## **Labor and Employment**

**AB 237 (Gray D) Public employment: unfair practices: health protection.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 740, Signed on October 9, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Under current law, the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) has the power and duty to investigate an unfair practice charge and to determine whether the charge is justified and the appropriate remedy for the unfair practice. This bill, the Public Employee Health Protection Act, would make it an unfair practice for a covered employer, as defined, to fail or refuse to maintain or pay for continued health care or other medical

coverage for an enrolled employee or their enrolled dependents, for the duration of the enrolled employee's participation in the authorized strike, at the level and under the conditions that coverage would have been provided if the employee had continued to work in their position for the duration of the strike.

**SB 93 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Employment: rehiring and retention: displaced workers: COVID-19 pandemic.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 16, Signed on April 15, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would, until December 31, 2024, require an employer, as defined, to offer its laid-off employees specified information about job positions that become available for which the laid-off employees are qualified, and to offer positions to those laid-off employees based on a preference system, in accordance with specified timelines and procedures. The bill would define the term "laid-off employee" to mean any employee who was employed by the employer for 6 months or more in the 12 months preceding January 1, 2020, and whose most recent separation from active service was due to a reason related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including a public health directive, government shutdown order, lack of business, a reduction in force, or other economic, non-disciplinary reason related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill would require an employer to keep records for 3 years, including records of communications regarding the offers.

**SB 95 (Skinner D) Employment: COVID-19: supplemental paid sick leave.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 13, Signed on March 18, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would provide for COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave for covered employees, as defined, who are unable to work or telework due to certain reasons related to COVID-19, including that the employee has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to concerns related to COVID-19. The bill would entitle a covered employee to 80 hours of COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave if that employee either works full time or was scheduled to work, on average, at least 40 hours per week for the employer in the 2 weeks preceding the date the covered employee took COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave. The bill would provide a different calculation for supplemental paid sick leave for a covered employee who is a firefighter subject to certain work schedule requirements and for a covered employee working fewer or variable hours, as specified. The bill would provide that the requirement to provide COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave would apply until September 30, 2021.

**SB 270 (Durazo D) Public employment: labor relations: employee information.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 330, Signed on September 27, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current, including the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act, the Ralph C. Dills Act, the Trial Court Employment Protection and Governance Act, the Trial Court Interpreter Employment and Labor Relations Act, and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Transit Employer-Employee Relations Act, provisions commonly referred to as the Educational Employment Relations Act, and the Higher Education Employer-Employee

Relations Act, among others, regulates the labor relations of the state, the courts, and specified local public agencies and their employees. Current law requires these public employers to provide certain labor representatives with the names and home addresses of newly hired employees, as well as their job titles, departments, work locations, telephone numbers, and personal email addresses, within 30 days of hire or by the first pay period of the month following hire. This bill, commencing July 1, 2022, would authorize an exclusive representative to file a charge of an unfair labor practice with the board, as specified, alleging a violation of the above-described requirements only if specified conditions are met, including that the exclusive representative gives written notice of the alleged violation and that the public employer fails to cure the violation, as specified. The bill would limit a public employer's opportunity to cure certain violations.

**SB 606 (Gonzalez D) Workplace safety: violations of statutes: enterprise-wide violations: egregious violations.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 336, Signed on September 27, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires the Division of Occupational Safety and Health to issue a citation for a violation of provisions relating to the spraying of asbestos, or any standard, rule, order, or regulation established pursuant to specified provisions of the California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 if, upon inspection or investigation, the division believes that an employer has committed a violation. Current law imposes penalties of certain maximum amounts depending on whether the violation is serious, uncorrected, or willful or repeated. Current law authorizes the division to seek an injunction restraining certain uses or operations of employment that constitute a serious menace to the lives or safety of persons, as specified. This bill would create a rebuttable presumption that a violation committed by an employer that has multiple worksites is enterprise-wide if the employer has a written policy or procedure that violates these provisions, except as specified, or the division has evidence of a pattern or practice of the same violation committed by that employer involving more than one of the employer's worksites. The bill would authorize the division to issue an enterprise-wide citation requiring enterprise-wide abatement if the employer fails to rebut such a presumption.

**SB 657 (Ochoa Bogh R) Employment: electronic documents.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 109, Signed on July 16, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law regulates the wages, hours, and working conditions of any worker employed in any occupation, trade, or industry, whether compensation is measured by time, piece, or otherwise, except as specified. This bill would provide that, in any instance in which an employer is required to physically post information, an employer may also distribute that information to employees by email with the document or documents attached. The bill would specify that this does not alter the employer's obligation to physically display the required posting.



## Miscellaneous

### **AB 46 (Rivas, Luz D) California Youth Empowerment Act.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 660, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would create the California Youth Empowerment Act to address, among other issues, the growing need to engage youth directly with policymakers. The bill would establish the California Youth Empowerment Commission in state government consisting of 13 voting commissioners between 14 and 25 years of age and meeting specified requirements, with 11 members appointed by the Governor, one at-large member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, and one at-large member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, along with several ex officio, nonvoting members from various geographic regions of the state. The bill would establish the commission to be advisory in nature, for the main purpose of providing meaningful opportunities for civic engagement to improve the quality of life for California's disconnected and disadvantaged youth.

### **AB 486 (Committee on Education) Elementary and secondary education: omnibus bill.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 666, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Sought Amendments

**Summary:** Current law establishes a system of public elementary and secondary education in this state. Under that system, various persons have specified duties and powers relating to the operation of elementary and secondary schools, including, among others, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, county superintendents of schools, county auditors, and city, district, deputy, associate, or assistant superintendents of schools. This bill would replace gendered terms with non-gendered terms and make various other non-substantive changes to provisions related to those persons.

### **AB 506 (Gonzalez, Lorena D) Youth service organizations: child abuse and neglect prevention.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 169, Signed on September 6, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law generally provides requirements for the licensing of business establishments. Current law requires a business that provides services to minors, as defined, to provide written notice to the parent or guardian of a youth participating in the service offered by the business regarding the business's policies relating to criminal background checks for employees who provide services to minors, as specified. Current law generally regulates classes of insurance, including liability insurance. This bill would require an administrator, employee, or program. or regular volunteer, as defined, of a youth service organization, as defined, to complete child abuse and neglect reporting training, as specified.

### **AB 674 (Bennett D) Dependent children: documents.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 524, Signed on October 5, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law establishes the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, which is permitted to adjudge children who have suffered abuse or neglect to be dependents of the court under certain circumstances, and prescribes various hearings and other procedures for these purposes. Current law requires the county welfare department to submit reports at the first regularly scheduled review hearing after a dependent child has attained 16 years of age and at the last regularly scheduled review hearing before a dependent child attains 18 years of age, and at every regularly scheduled review hearing thereafter, verifying that the county has provided certain information, documents, and services to the child or non-minor. This bill would also require the county welfare department to document in the report submitted at the last regularly scheduled review hearing before a dependent child attains 18 years of age that the minor or non-minor has been provided written information notifying the minor or non-minor that they may be eligible to receive CalFresh and where they can apply for CalFresh benefits.

**ACR 53 (Ward D) Purple Star School Program.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 57, Signed on June 24, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** This measure would request the State Department of Education to establish and manage a program designating schools that support military-connected pupils as Purple Star Schools and use the Military Child Education Coalition for resources and information regarding the Purple Star School Program.

**SB 254 (Borgeas R) Public schools: September 11th Remembrance Day.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 102, Signed on July 16, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law designates particular days each year as having special significance and encourages all public schools and educational institutions to observe those days and to conduct suitable commemorative exercises on those days. This bill would designate and set apart September 11 each year as September 11th Remembrance Day, a day having special significance. The bill would encourage, when September 11th Remembrance Day falls on a school day, each public elementary and secondary school to observe a moment of silence at an appropriate time while school is in session.

## **Physical Education**

**SB 722 (Melendez R) Pupil safety: swimming pools: adult presence: cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 679, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Would, If a school district or charter school elects to sponsor or host, in or around a swimming pool, an on-campus event that is not part of an interscholastic athletic program, require the school district or charter school to require at least one adult with a valid certification of CPR training to be present throughout the duration of the event.

## **PERS/STRS**

### **AB 539 (Cooley D) State teachers' retirement: investment managers and investment advisers: contracts.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 619, Signed on October 7, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Teachers' Retirement Law establishes the State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) and creates the Defined Benefit Program of the State Teachers' Retirement Plan, which provides a defined benefit to members of the program, based on final compensation, credited service, and age at retirement, subject to certain variations. STRS is administered by the Teachers' Retirement Board. Existing law authorizes the board, upon a finding by the board that necessary investment expertise is not available within existing civil service classifications, and with approval of the State Personnel Board, to contract with qualified investment managers, as provided. This bill would additionally authorize the board to contract with investment advisers, as defined, upon the same finding by the board and approval by the State Personnel Board.

### **SB 278 (Leyva D) Public Employees' Retirement System: disallowed compensation: benefit adjustments.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 331, Signed on September 27, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPRA) generally requires a public retirement system, as defined, to modify its plan or plans to comply with the act. PEPRA, among other things, establishes new defined benefit formulas and caps on pensionable compensation. This bill would establish new procedures under PERL for cases in which PERS determines that the benefits of a member or annuitant are, or would be, based on disallowed compensation that conflicts with PEPRA and other specified laws and thus impermissible under PERL. The bill would also apply these procedures retroactively to determinations made on or after January 1, 2017, if an appeal has been filed and the employee member, survivor, or beneficiary has not exhausted their administrative or legal remedies. At the threshold, after determining that compensation for an employee member reported by the state, school employer, or a contracting agency is disallowed, the bill would require the applicable employer to discontinue the reporting of the disallowed compensation.

### **SB 294 (Leyva D) Public retirement: leave of absence: service credit.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 539, Signed on October 5, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law entitles an elected officer of an employee organization that is on a compensated leave of absence, as specified, for purposes of service with an employee organization to retirement service credit in STRS and PERS if specified conditions are met. Current law requires the governing board of a school district, or the governing board of a community college district, to grant any employee, upon request, a leave of absence without loss of compensation for the purpose of enabling the employee to serve in this manner, as specified. Current law excepts certain employees from these provisions if they

are subject to a collective bargaining agreement that expressly provides for a leave of absence without loss of compensation for participation in authorized activities as an elected officer or an unelected member of the public employee organization. Current law limits the maximum amount of the service credit earned during a compensated leave of absence for the purposes described above to 12 years. This bill would remove the 12-year limitation for service credit earned on a compensated leave of absence for purposes of service with an employee organization, as described above. The bill would state that this leave is in addition to any leave to which public employees may be entitled by other laws or by a memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement.

**SB 411 (Cortese D) Public Employees' Retirement System: employment without reinstatement.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 136, Signed on July 23, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Public Employees' Retirement Law (PERL), creates the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), which provides pension and disability benefits to its members and prescribes their rights and duties. Current law, the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPRA), prescribed various limitations on public employees, employers, and retirement systems concerning, among other things, work after retirement. PERL generally prohibits retired PERS members from working for an agency participating in the system without reinstatement in the system, unless that employment is otherwise specifically authorized. This bill would eliminate the above-described requirement that a person employed without reinstatement in a manner other than authorized by PERL be reinstated, instead providing that reinstatement is permissive. The bill would limit the circumstances pursuant to which retired members and employers are obligated to pay employee and employer contributions, which would have otherwise been paid, plus interest, to apply only to specified reinstatements.

**SB 634 (Committee on Labor, Public Employment and Retirement) Public employees' retirement.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter 186, Signed on September 16, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** STRS is administrated by the Teachers' Retirement Board. Current law requires STRS to pay premiums associated with Medicare Part A for certain retired or disabled members, as specified. Current law creates the Cash Balance Benefit Program, which is administered by the board, to provide a retirement plan for the benefit of participating employees who provide creditable service for less than 50% of full time. Current law applicable to the Defined Benefit Program, for applications and documents requiring a signature, requires that the signature be in a form prescribed by the system. This bill would apply the above-described requirements regarding signed applications and documents to the Cash Balance Benefit Program and the requirement that STRS pay certain Medicare Part A premiums.

## School Nutrition

### **AB 1009 (Bloom D) Farm to Community Food Hub Program.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 608, Signed on October 7, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Would establish the Farm to Community Food Hub Program, to be administered by the office. The bill would authorize the Department of Food and Agriculture to consult with outside entities who possess expertise in specified areas, including, but not limited to, the Sustainable Agriculture and Research Education Program, housed within the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources. The bill would require the Secretary of Food and Agriculture to establish an advisory committee, composed as specified, for the purpose of advising the secretary with respect to their responsibilities regarding the program.

### **AB 1276 (Carrillo D) Single-use foodware accessories and standard condiments.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 505, Signed on October 5, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would prohibit a food facility from providing any single-use foodware accessory or standard condiment, as defined, to a consumer unless requested by the consumer, as provided. The bill would prohibit those items from being bundled or packaged in a way that prohibits the consumer from taking only the item desired. The bill would authorize a food facility to ask a drive-through consumer, or a food facility located within a public airport to ask a walk-through consumer, if the consumer wants a single-use foodware accessory in specified circumstances. The bill would require a food facility using a third-party food delivery platform to list on its menu the availability of single-use foodware accessories and standard condiments and only provide those items when requested, as provided. The bill would exclude from these requirements correctional institutions, health care facilities, residential care facilities, and public and private school cafeterias.

## State Budget

### **AB 80 (Burke D) Taxation: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act: Federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 17, Signed on April 29, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would exclude, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, from gross income any advance grant amount, as defined, issued pursuant to specified provisions of the CARES Act or the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, and covered loan amounts forgiven pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.

### **AB 82 (Ting D) COVID-19 pandemic emergency: contact tracing: childcare.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 6, Signed on February 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law provides that the Legislature finds and declares that the federal



Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136) Child Care and Development Block Grant supplemental payment awarded funds to California to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on childcare providers and the families they serve, including to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the pandemic emergency, to provide assistance to childcare providers in the case of decreased enrollment or closures, and to provide childcare assistance to essential workers during the response to the pandemic. Current law provides that it is the intent of the Legislature to allocate funds to restore amounts either directly or through reimbursement for obligations incurred relating to childcare and the pandemic. Current law requires the Controller to transfer, on July 1, 2020, \$152,314,000 from the Federal Trust Fund, and consistent with the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Child Care and Development Block Grant supplemental payment requirements, to the General Fund to offset the state costs incurred in the 2019–20 fiscal year. For the 2020–2021 fiscal year, current law appropriates \$198,000,000 from the Federal Trust Fund to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for COVID-19 pandemic-related relief and assistance for childcare providers, the families those childcare providers serve, and essential workers, as prescribed. This bill would instead require \$42,014,000 to be transferred on July 1, 2020, and would instead appropriate \$308,000,000 for the 2020–2021 fiscal year thereby making an appropriation.

**AB 85 (Committee on Budget) Budget Act of 2020: family waivers.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 4, Signed on February 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Budget Act of 2020 made appropriations for the support of state government for the 2020–21 fiscal year. This bill would amend the Budget Act of 2020 by amending and adding items of appropriation and making other changes.

**AB 86 (Committee on Budget) COVID-19 relief and school reopening, reporting, and public health requirements.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 10, Signed on March 5, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law, for purposes of calculating apportionments for the 2020–21 fiscal year, requires a local educational agency to offer in-person instruction and authorizes these agencies to offer distance learning, as specified. This bill would require the school administrator or other person in charge of a public or private school campus maintaining kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, upon learning that a school employee or pupil at the public or private school campus has tested positive for COVID-19 and was present on campus while infectious, to immediately, and in no case later than 24 hours after learning of the positive COVID-19 case, notify the local health officer or the local health officer's representative about the positive case, as specified.

**AB 128 (Ting D) Budget Act of 2021.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 21, Signed on June 28, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2021–22 fiscal year. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as a Budget Bill.

**AB 130 (Committee on Budget) Education finance: education omnibus budget trailer bill.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 44, Signed on July 9, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law places various requirements on county superintendents of schools and the Superintendent of Public Instruction in reviewing and determining whether a county office of education's adopted budget will allow the county office of education to meet its financial obligations during the fiscal year and, based on current forecasts, for 2 subsequent fiscal years. This bill would revise certain requirements on county superintendents of schools and the Superintendent regarding determinations of fiscal distress for county offices of education, and would require the Superintendent to provide a written notice of going concern determination to the county board of education and the county superintendent of schools under certain circumstances.

**AB 131 (Committee on Budget) Child development programs.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 116, Signed on July 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Child Care and Development Services Act establishes a system of childcare and development services for children up to 13 years of age, which is administered by the State Department of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction and which includes various programs and services, including, among others, CalWORKs stage 2 and stage 3 childcare, migrant childcare, childcare and development services for children with special needs, the alternative payment program, and head start programs. These programs and services are contained in the Education Code. Existing law, effective July 1, 2021, transfers administration of these programs to the State Department of Social Services. This bill would make various statutory changes to reflect the transfer described above, including by repealing the statutes governing those programs, services, and duties from the Education Code and reenacting them in the Welfare and Institutions Code.

**AB 132 (Committee on Budget) Postsecondary education trailer bill.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 144, Signed on July 27, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would establish the Cradle-to-Career Data System for the purpose of connecting individuals and organizations to trusted information and resources, as a source for actionable data and research on education, economic, and health outcomes for individuals, families, and communities, and to provide for expanded access to tools and services that support the education-to-employment pipeline, as specified.

**AB 133 (Committee on Budget) Health.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 143, Signed on July 27, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law establishes the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHDP), under the control of an executive officer known as the Director of Statewide Health Planning and Development. The office is vested with all the duties, powers, purposes, and responsibilities of the State Department of Public Health relating to health planning and research development. Current law creates the health care workforce

clearinghouse to serve as the central source of health care workforce and education data in the state to collect data regarding health care workers, including the supply of health care workers and current and forecasted demand for health care workers. This bill would rename the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development as the Department of Health Care Access and Information. The bill would repeal numerous duties and programs currently carried out by the OSHPD, including, among others, rural health care transition oversight, the Steven M. Thompson Medical School Scholarship Program, and the Postsurgical Care Demonstration Project.

**AB 134 (Committee on Budget) Mental Health Services Act: county program and expenditure plans.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 75, Signed on July 16, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) established the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission and requires the counties to prepare and submit a 3-year program and expenditure plan, and annual updates, as specified, to the commission and the department. Existing law authorizes a county that is unable to complete and submit a 3-year plan or annual update for the 2020–21 fiscal year due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency to extend the effective timeframe of its currently approved 3-year plan or annual update to include the 2020–21 fiscal year and requires the county to submit a 3-year program and expenditure plan or annual update to the commission and the department by July 1, 2021. This bill would additionally authorize a county that is unable to complete and submit a 3-year plan or annual update for the 2021–22 fiscal year due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency to extend the effective timeframe of its currently approved 3-year plan or annual update to include the 2021–22 fiscal year and would require the county to submit a 3-year program and expenditure plan or annual update to the commission and the department by July 1, 2022.

**AB 135 (Committee on Budget) Human services omnibus.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 85, Signed on July 16, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The California Community Care Facilities Act provides for the licensing and regulation of community care facilities, including group home facilities, short-term residential therapeutic programs, and adult residential facilities, by the State Department of Social Services. The department similarly regulates residential care facilities for the elderly. Current law requires administrators of these facilities to complete a department-approved certification program. Under existing law, the department is authorized to charge a fee of up to \$100 for an initial or renewal administrator certification, and an additional \$300 delinquency fee for processing a late renewal. Existing law also authorizes a fee of up to \$150 every 2 years to certification program vendors for review and approval of the training program, and \$100 every 2 years for review and approval of continuing education courses. This bill would uniformly refer to these certification programs as administrator certification training programs. The bill would revise the existing fee structure, commencing July 1, 2021, including making the \$100 fee for processing a certification application or renewal subject to a 10% increase each year for 4 years, and imposing a new examination fee of \$100 for 3 attempts, and a \$10 per unit fee for processing continuing

education courses.

**AB 138 (Committee on Budget) Employment: health care benefits: unemployment insurance: policies and practices.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 78, Signed on July 16, 2021 Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act (PEMHCA), which is administered by the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System, governs the funding and provision of postemployment health care benefits for eligible retired public employees and their families. PEMHCA requires the employing office of a state employee or state annuitant, pursuant to standards established by the Department of Human Resources, to possess documentation verifying eligibility of an employee's family member prior to the enrollment of a family member in a health benefit plan and to verify continued eligibility pursuant to a specified schedule. PEMHCA requires the employing office to obtain verifying information for certain family members, including children and stepchildren, at least once every 3 years. This bill would repeal those PEMHCA provisions and reenact revised provisions in existing law relating to general powers and responsibilities of the department. Specifies that the local educational agencies contabulation rate for the school Employee Fund will be 0.5% in the 2021-22 and 2022-23 fiscal years.

**AB 161 (Ting D) Budget Act of 2021.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 43, Signed on July 9, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Budget Act of 2021 made appropriations for the support of state government for the 2021-22 fiscal year. This bill would amend the Budget Act of 2021 by amending items of appropriation and making other changes. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as a Budget Bill.

**AB 164 (Ting D) Budget Act of 2021.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 84, Signed on July 16, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Budget Act of 2021 made appropriations for the support of state government for the 2021-22 fiscal year. This bill would amend the Budget Act of 2021 by amending and adding items of appropriation and making other changes. This bill contains other related provisions.

**AB 167 (Committee on Budget) Education finance: education omnibus budget trailer bill.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 252, Signed on September 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Seek Amendments

**Summary:** Current law establishes the California Prekindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant Program as a state early learning initiative with the goal of expanding access to classroom-based prekindergarten programs at local educational agencies, defined as school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools.

Current law appropriates \$300,000,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Education for allocation to local educational agencies for grants for the 2021–22 fiscal year. Current law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to allocate \$200,000,000 of that amount to local educational agencies as base grants, enrollment grants, and supplemental grants for specified purposes. This bill would revise the methodology for allocating base grants, enrollment grants, and supplemental grants to local educational agencies under the program.

**AB 172 (Committee on Budget) Human services.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 696, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law establishes the Department of Child Support Services, which administers all federal and state laws and regulations relating to child support enforcement obligations. Current law requires each county to maintain a local child support agency that is responsible for establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support obligations, including medical support, enforcing spousal support orders, and determining paternity, as specified. Current law, commencing January 1, 2023, requires a local child support agency to cease enforcement of child support arrearages and otherwise past due amounts owed to the state that the Department of Child Support Services or the local child support agency has determined to be uncollectible, as specified. This bill would instead require a local child support agency to cease enforcement of child support arrearages assigned to the state and other fees and costs owed to the state when the department or local child support agency has determined that the amount is uncollectible.

**AB 175 (Committee on Budget) Housing: mortgages and deeds of trust: use of state property: surplus land disposal: financing programs.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 255, Signed on September 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law prescribes various requirements to be satisfied before the exercise of a power of sale under a mortgage or deed of trust and prescribes a procedure for the exercise of that power. Current law prescribes the dates when a trustee's sale is deemed final if specified payments are made and, in this regard, a trustee's sale is deemed final upon the acceptance of the last and highest bid and is deemed perfected as of 8 a.m. on the actual date of sale if the trustee's deed is recorded within 18 calendar days after the sale, except as specified. This bill would extend the date in the above-described condition relating to the recording of the trustee's deed to 21 calendar days. The bill would require this change to become operative on January 1, 2022.

**SB 129 (Skinner D) Budget Act of 2021.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 69, Signed on June 28, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Budget Act of 2021 made appropriations for the support of state government for the 2021–22 fiscal year. This bill would amend the Budget Act of 2021 by amending, adding, and repealing items of appropriation and making other changes. This bill contains other related provisions.



**SB 156 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Communications: broadband.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 112, Signed on July 20, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Joint Exercise of Powers Act authorizes joint power entities created under that act to issue mortgage revenue bonds and industrial development bonds, as provided. This bill would authorize those joint power entities to also issue revenue bonds for the deployment of broadband infrastructure by a public entity or nonprofit organization, as provided.

**SB 158 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Hazardous waste.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 73, Signed on June 30, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would establish the Board of Environmental Safety in the Department of Toxic Substances Control, consisting of 5 members, with 3 members appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate, one member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, and one member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly. The bill would require the board to perform certain activities, including setting of fees related to the handling of hazardous substances and hazardous waste, hearing appeals of the hazardous waste facility permitting decisions, and conducting a specified analysis. The bill would establish an office of the ombudsperson in the board to receive complaints and suggestions from the public, to evaluate complaints received, to report findings and make recommendations to the Director of Toxic Substances Control and the board, and to render assistance to the public.

**SB 168 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Child care.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 261, Signed on September 23, 2021, Effective Immediately.

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Child Care and Development Services Act provides a comprehensive, coordinated, and cost-effective system of child care and development services for children from infancy to 13 years of age and their parents, including an alternative payment program that requires the State Department of Social Services to contract with local government agencies or nonprofit organizations to provide alternative payments and to provide support services to parents and providers. This bill would include migrant alternative payment programs in the definition of “alternative payment programs” for this purpose.

**SB 169 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Postsecondary education trailer bill.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 262, Signed on September 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would establish the Higher Education Student Housing Grant Program, to provide one-time grants for the construction of student housing or for the acquisition and renovation of commercial properties into student housing for the purpose of providing

affordable, low-cost housing options for students enrolled in public postsecondary education in the state. The bill would require, from any amount appropriated in support of the program, 50% of the available funds for the California Community Colleges, 30% of the available funds for the California State University, and 20% of the available funds for the University of California. This bill would also establish the Higher Education Capacity Expansion Grant Program to provide one-time grants for capacity expansion projects to support increased California resident enrollment.

**[SB 170 \(Skinner D\)](#) Budget Act of 2021.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter 240, Signed on September 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Budget Act of 2021 made appropriations for the support of state government for the 2021-22 fiscal year. This bill would amend the Budget Act of 2021 by amending, adding, and repealing items of appropriation and making other changes. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as a Budget Bill.

**[SB 171 \(Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review\)](#) Health.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 263, Signed on September 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law establishes the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services and under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services through various health care delivery systems, including managed care pursuant to Medi-Cal managed care plan contracts. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid program provisions. This bill, subject to an appropriation, would require the department to implement activities and expenditures to enhance, expand, or strengthen home and community-based services (HCBS) under the Medi-Cal program, as specified.

## **Student Health Wellness, Medi-Cal, and Mental Health**

**[AB 309 \(Gabriel D\)](#) Pupil mental health: model referral protocols.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 662, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would require the State Department of Education to develop model referral protocols, as provided, for addressing pupil mental health concerns. The bill would require the department to consult with various entities in developing the protocols, including current classroom teachers, administrators, pupils, and parents. The bill would require the department to post the model referral protocols on its internet website. The bill would make these provisions contingent upon funds being appropriated for its purpose in the annual Budget Act or other legislation, or state, federal, or private funds being allocated for this purpose.

**[AB 367 \(Garcia, Cristina D\)](#) Menstrual products.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 664, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would enact the Menstrual Equity for All Act of 2021, which would require a public school, as provided, maintaining any combination of classes from grades 6 to 12, inclusive, to stock the school's restrooms with an adequate supply of free menstrual products, as defined, available and accessible, free of cost, in all women's restrooms and all-gender restrooms, and in at least one men's restroom, at all times, and to post a designated notice, on or before the start of the 2022–23 school year, as prescribed.

**AB 382 (Kamlager D) Whole Child Model program.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 51, Signed on July 9, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law authorizes the State Department of Health Care Services to establish a Whole Child Model (WCM) program, under which managed care plans served by a county organized health system or Regional Health Authority in designated counties provide CCS services to Medi-Cal eligible CCS children and youth. Current law requires the department to establish a statewide WCM program stakeholder advisory group that includes specified persons, such as CCS case managers and labor organizations, to consult with that advisory group on the implementation of the WCM, and to consider the advisory group's recommendations on prescribed matters. Current law terminates the advisory group on December 31, 2021. This bill would remove labor organizations from the stakeholder advisory group, and would instead include recognized exclusive representatives of CCS county providers. The bill would instead terminate the advisory group on December 31, 2023.

**AB 457 (Santiago D) Protection of Patient Choice in Telehealth Provider Act.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 439, Signed on October 1, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law provides for the licensure and regulation of various healing arts professions and vocations by boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs. Under current law, it is unlawful for healing arts licensees, except as specified, to offer, deliver, receive, or accept any rebate, refund, commission, preference, patronage dividend, discount, or other consideration, in the form of money or otherwise, as compensation or inducement for referring patients, clients, or customers to any person, subject to certain exceptions. This bill would provide that the payment or receipt of consideration for internet-based advertising, appointment booking, or any service that provides information and resources to prospective patients of licensees does not constitute a referral of a patient if the internet-based service provider does not recommend or endorse a specific licensee to a prospective patient.

**AB 638 (Quirk-Silva D) Mental Health Services Act: early intervention and prevention programs.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 584, Signed on October 6, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Mental Health Services Act requires counties to establish a program designed to prevent mental illnesses from becoming severe and disabling and authorizes counties to use funds designated for prevention and early intervention to broaden the

provision of those community-based mental health services by adding prevention and early intervention services or activities. Current law authorizes the MHSA to be amended by a 2/3 vote of the Legislature if the amendments are consistent with, and further the purposes of, the MHSA. This bill would amend the MHSA by including in the prevention and early intervention services authorized to be provided, prevention and early intervention strategies that address mental health needs, substance misuse or substance use disorders, or needs relating to cooccurring mental health and substance use services. By authorizing a new use for continuously appropriated funds, this bill would make an appropriation. The bill would state the finding and declaration of the Legislature that this change is consistent with, and furthers the intent of, the MHSA.

**AB 856 (Maienschein D) Pupil health: COVID-19 Youth Health Information Act.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 123, Signed on July 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would enact the COVID-19 Youth Health Information Act. The act would require the State Department of Education to post on its internet website information related to the safe return of pupils to exercise and physical activity, as defined, after exhibiting signs or symptoms of, or testing positive for, COVID-19, and would specify that the information include current guidelines issued by the American Academy of Pediatrics. The bill also would require the department to include in its posts current guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatrics for pupils to obtain medical clearance before returning to exercise and physical activity after exhibiting signs or symptoms of, or testing positive for, COVID-19, as specified.

**ACR 68 (O'Donnell D) Student Mental Health Week.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 73, Signed on July 15, 2021

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** This measure would declare the week of May 10, 2021, to May 14, 2021, inclusive, as Student Mental Health Week.

**SB 97 (Roth D) Pupil health: type 1 diabetes information: parent notification.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 674, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would require the State Department of Education to develop type 1 diabetes informational materials for the parents and guardians of pupils, as specified, and would require those informational materials to be made available to each school district, county office of education, and charter school through the department's internet website. The bill would require, on and after January 1, 2023, school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to make those materials available to the parent or guardian of a pupil when the pupil is first enrolled in elementary school, or as part of a certain notification. By imposing additional requirements on school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

**SB 395 (Caballero D) Excise tax: electronic cigarettes: Health Careers Opportunity Grant Program: Small and Rural Hospital Relief Program.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 489, Signed on October 4, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would authorize the Department of Health Care Access and Information to enter into contracts, to meet the requirements of the Health Professions Career Opportunity Program, with nonprofit entities headquartered in California that have previous experience with administering statewide workforce programs aimed at building a diverse provider workforce.

**SB 465 (Eggman D) Mental health.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 544, Signed on October 5, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), an initiative measure enacted by the voters as Proposition 63 at the November 2, 2004, statewide general election, establishes the continuously appropriated Mental Health Services Fund to fund various county mental health programs and establishes the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission to oversee the administration of various parts of the act. This bill would require the commission to report to specified legislative committees the outcomes for people receiving community mental health services under a full service partnership model, as specified, including any barriers to receiving the data and recommendations to strengthen California's use of full service partnerships to reduce incarceration, hospitalization, and homelessness

## **Tax Policy**

**AB 742 (Calderon D) Personal income taxes: voluntary contributions: School Supplies for Homeless Children Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 96, Signed on July 16, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Department of Social Services to enter into a subvention services agreement with a nonprofit organization to administer the School Supplies for Homeless Children Fund, and repeals the fund on January 1, 2022, unless a specified minimum contribution amount is not met. Current law sets forth general administrative provisions applicable to voluntary contributions, which, among other things, require any new or extended voluntary contribution fund to include the words "voluntary tax contribution" in the name of the fund, to require the administering agency to include specified information about the fund on its internet website, and to continuously appropriate from the fund the contributions made to the administering agency. This bill would extend the provisions of the School Supplies for Homeless Children Fund to January 1, 2029, unless a specified minimum contribution amount is not met, in which case the provisions are repealed, as provided. The bill would additionally authorize the Department of Social Services to enter into a grant agreement with the nonprofit organization for administration of the fund.



**AB 1203 (Burke D) Property taxation: assessment appeals board: qualifications: County of Los Angeles.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 418, Signed on September 30, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current property tax law authorizes a county board of supervisors to create, by ordinance, assessment appeals boards for the county to equalize the valuation of taxable property within the county for the purpose of taxation. Current property tax law disqualifies, in counties with a population of 200,000 or more, a person for nomination for membership on an assessment appeals board unless they have a minimum of 5 years' professional experience in the state in one of various specified professions, including, but not limited to, as an attorney or certified public accountant. This bill would expand the type of professional experience a person may have to be eligible for nomination for membership on an assessment appeals board in the County of Los Angeles to include professional experience in a real estate field, including, but not limited to, business accounting and taxation, land use and urban planning, real estate development or investment analysis, and real estate banking or financing.

**SB 219 (McGuire D) Property taxation: delinquent penalties and costs: cancellation: public health orders.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 131, Signed on July 23, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current property tax law requires the county tax collector to collect all property taxes and provides for the payment of taxes on the secured roll in 2 installments, which are due and payable on November 1 and February 1, respectively. This bill would authorize the auditor or the tax collector to cancel any penalty, costs, or other charges resulting from tax delinquency upon a finding that failure to make a timely payment is due to a documented hardship, as determined by the tax collector, arising from a shelter-in-place order, as defined, if the principal payment for the proper amount of tax due is paid no later than June 30 of the fiscal year in which the payment first became delinquent.

**SB 539 (Hertzberg D) Property taxation: taxable value transfers.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 427, Signed on September 30, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current provisions of the California Constitution, adopted as Proposition 19 by the voters at the November 3, 2020, general election, on and after February 16, 2021, exclude from the terms "purchase" and "change in ownership" for purposes of determining the "full cash value" of property the purchase or transfer of a family home or family farm, as those terms are defined, of the transferor in the case of a transfer between parents and their children, or between grandparents and their grandchildren if all the parents of those grandchildren are deceased, as specified. In the case of a transfer of a family home, existing law requires that the property continue as the family home of the transferee. Current law authorizes, if certain conditions are fulfilled, the new taxable value, defined as the base year value determined as provided above plus any inflation adjustment, of the purchased or transferred family home or family farm to be the sum of (1) the taxable value of the property, subject to adjustment, as determined as of the date immediately prior to the

transfer or purchase, and (2) a portion, if any, of the assessed value of the property, as specified. In the case of property tax benefits provided to a family home under these provisions, existing law requires the transferee to claim the homeowner's or disabled veteran's exemption within one year of the transfer. This bill would implement these newly adopted constitutional provisions, as provided.

## **Technology**

### **AB 14 (Aguiar-Curry D) Communications: California Advanced Services Fund: deaf and disabled telecommunications program: surcharges.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 658, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Under current law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including telephone corporations. Current law requires the commission to develop, implement, and administer the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) to encourage deployment of high-quality advanced communications services to all Californians that will promote economic growth, job creation, and the substantial social benefits of advanced information and communications technologies. Current law authorizes the commission to impose a surcharge to collect \$330,000,000 for deposit into the CASF beginning January 1, 2018, and continuing through the 2022 calendar year. Current law specifies the amount of surcharge revenues to be deposited into each account within the CASF, subject to appropriation by the Legislature. This bill would authorize the commission to impose the surcharge to fund the CASF until December 31, 2032, as specified.

### **AB 41 (Wood D) Broadband infrastructure deployment.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 659, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law vests the Department of Transportation with full possession and control of state highways and associated property. Current law requires the department to notify companies and organizations working on broadband deployment on its internet website of specified department-led highway construction projects and authorizes those companies and organizations to collaborate with the department to install broadband conduits as part of those projects. This bill would require the department, as part of those projects that are funded by a specified item of the Budget Act of 2021 and are located in priority areas, to ensure that construction includes the installation of conduits capable of supporting optic communication cables.

### **AB 537 (Quirk D) Communications: wireless telecommunications and broadband facilities.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 467, Signed on October 4, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Current law requires a collocation or siting application for a wireless telecommunications facility be deemed approved if a city or county fails to approve or disapprove the application within the time periods specified in applicable FCC decisions, all

required public notices have been provided regarding the application, and the applicant has provided a notice to the city or county that the time period has lapsed. This bill would require that the time periods described above be determined pursuant to specified FCC rules. The bill would require that the city, county, or city and county notify the applicant of the incompleteness of an application within the time periods established by applicable FCC rules. The bill would require that the time period for a city or county to approve or disapprove a collocation or siting application commence when the applicant makes the first required submission or takes the first required step, as specified.

**AB 1352 (Chau D) Independent information security assessments: Military  
Department: local educational agencies.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 593, Signed on October 6, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Would authorize the Military Department, at the request of a local educational agency, and in consultation with the California Cybersecurity Integration Center, to perform an independent security assessment of the local educational agency, or an individual schoolsite under its jurisdiction, the cost of which to be funded by the local educational agency, as specified..

**SB 4 (Gonzalez D) Communications: California Advanced Services Fund.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 671, Signed on October 8, 2021, Effective Immediately

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Would require the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to coordinate with other relevant state and local agencies and national organizations to explore ways to facilitate streamlining of local land use approvals and construction permit processes for projects related to broadband infrastructure deployment and connectivity.

**SB 28 (Caballero D) Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act of 2006:  
deployment data.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 673, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** The Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act of 2006, establishes a procedure for the issuance of state franchises for the provision of video service, defined to include cable service and open-video systems, administered by the Public Utilities Commission. The act provides that the holder of a state franchise is not a public utility as a result of providing video service and does not provide the commission with authority to regulate the rates, terms, and conditions of video service except as explicitly set forth in the act. The act requires a franchise holder to annually report to the commission regarding the availability of and subscriptions to broadband and video service, as specified. This bill would repeal the requirement that franchise holders annually report regarding the availability of and subscriptions to broadband and video service.

**SB 378 (Gonzalez D) Local government: broadband infrastructure development project permit processing: microtrenching permit processing ordinance.**

**Status:** Chaptered, Chapter Number 677, Signed on October 8, 2021

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would require a local agency to allow, except as provided, microtrenching for the installation of underground fiber if the installation in the microtrench is limited to fiber. The bill would also require, to the extent necessary, a local agency with jurisdiction to approve excavations to adopt or amend existing policies, ordinances, codes, or construction rules to allow for microtrenching. The bill would provide that these provisions do not supersede, nullify, or otherwise alter the requirements to comply with specified safety standards. The bill would authorize a local agency to impose a fee for its reasonable costs on an application for a permit to install fiber, as provided.

## Vetoed Bills

### [AB 339 \(Lee D\)](#) Local government: open and public meetings.

**Status:** Vetoed

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. Under existing law, a member of the legislative body who attends a meeting where action is taken in violation of this provision, with the intent to deprive the public of information that the member knows the public is entitled to, is guilty of a crime. This bill would require local agencies to conduct meetings subject to the act consistent with applicable state and federal civil rights laws, as specified.

**Governor's Message:** *To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 339 without my signature. This bill requires, until December 31, 2023, that city councils and boards of supervisors in jurisdictions with over 250,000 residents provide both in-person and teleconference options for the public to attend their meetings. While I appreciate the author's intent to increase transparency and public participation in certain local government meetings, this bill would set a precedent of tying public access requirements to the population of jurisdictions. This patchwork approach may lead to public confusion. Further, AB 339 limits flexibility and increases costs for the affected local jurisdictions trying to manage their meetings. Additionally, this bill requires in-person participation during a declared state of emergency unless there is a law prohibiting in-person meetings in those situations. This could put the health and safety of the public and employees at risk depending on the nature of the declared emergency. I recently signed urgency legislation that provides the authority and procedures for local entities to meet remotely during a declared state of emergency. I remain open to revisions to the Brown Act to modernize and increase public access, while protecting public health and safety. Unfortunately, the approach in this bill may have unintended consequences. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom*

### [AB 1215 \(Boerner Horvath D\)](#) Public postsecondary education: University of California: admissions policy: systemwide protocols.

**Status:** Vetoed

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Provisions of the Donahoe Higher Education Act apply to the University of California only to the extent that the Regents of the University of California act, by appropriate resolution, to make those provisions applicable. A provision of the act expresses the intent of the Legislature that, in determining the standards and criteria for undergraduate and graduate admissions to UC and the California State University, the governing bodies of the segments, among other things, develop processes that strive to be fair and are easily understandable. This bill would request the regents to adopt a policy directing the Office of the President of the University of California to establish systemwide protocols for admissions of students no later than February 1, 2022, to become effective for the fall 2023 admission cycle of the university, beginning August 1, 2022.

**Governor's Message:** *To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 1215 without my signature. This bill requests the University of California (UC)*



*Board of Regents to adopt policies directing the UC Office of the President to establish various systemwide protocols pertaining to undergraduate admissions and conduct additional auditing of campus undergraduate admissions. I am committed to ensuring the fairness of admissions processes at all California colleges and universities, which is why I signed previous legislation with that goal in mind. However, I believe that the system-wide requirements stipulated in this bill could constrain the UC's ability to effectively use its holistic admissions process in admitting diverse cohorts of new students. Moreover, I believe that the UC has addressed the majority of issues identified by the State Auditor with the seriousness they deserve and has already implemented many of the safeguards required by this bill. In light of the UC's ongoing implementation of audit recommendations, this bill is premature. I will continue to monitor this issue and expect that the UC follows through on these new procedures. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom*

**AB 1456 (Medina D) Student financial aid: Cal Grant Reform Act.**

**Status:** Vetoed

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would enact the Cal Grant Reform Act, which would revise and recast the provisions establishing and governing the existing Cal Grant Program into a new Cal Grant Program. The bill would specify that the Cal Grant Reform Act would only become operative upon the appropriation by the Legislature, in the annual Budget Act or another statute, of sufficient funds to fully implement its provisions. The bill would authorize the commission to adopt emergency regulations to implement the Cal Grant Reform Act. The new Cal Grant Program would also include a Cal Grant 2 Program and a Cal Grant 4 Program, with eligibility requirements as specified.

**Governor's Message:** *To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 1456 without my signature. This bill would replace the existing Cal Grant financial aid program with new Cal Grant 2 and Cal Grant 4 awards, for students receiving new awards beginning with the 2024-25 academic year. Expanding access to financial aid has been a priority for my Administration. During my first year as Governor, I worked with the Legislature to provide access awards of up to \$6,000 for students with dependent children. In partnership with the Legislature, we recently made historic investments in our financial aid system, including over \$235 million in ongoing resources to expand Cal Grant eligibility for community college students, and a combined \$632 million in ongoing resources to focus the Middle Class Scholarship Program on reducing students' total cost of attendance. This bill seeks to replace those investments prior to their full implementation. I agree with the author that making the Cal Grant program simpler to navigate would benefit our students and their families. However, this bill results in significant cost pressures to the state, likely in the hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Future changes to the financial aid system of this magnitude should be considered as a part of the annual budget process. For these reasons, I am returning this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom*

**AB 1560 (Daly D) Distance learning: pupil access: computing devices and broadband internet service.**

**Status:** Vetoed

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to, on or before April 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, survey each school district, county office of education, and charter school and report to the Legislature on the number of pupils without computing devices that meet the minimum performance standard for distance learning, as established by the Superintendent, and on the number of pupils from households without residential broadband service. To the extent responding to the survey would impose additional duties on local educational agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

**Governor's Message:** *To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 1560 without my signature. This bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to survey local education agencies (LEAs) on student access to computing devices and broadband service and authorize the California Department of Technology to enter into sponsored service agreements with LEAs for the purpose of providing residential broadband to eligible pupils. Closing the digital divide is crucial to promoting equity in our schools, which is why I worked with the Legislature to secure \$6 billion to expand broadband infrastructure and enhance internet access for unserved and underserved communities. Further, SB 98 (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2020) appropriated \$5.3 billion for LEAs to support pupil academic achievement and mitigate learning loss related to the COVID-19 pandemic, funding which they can use for purposes including the purchase of computing devices. Therefore, the provisions of this bill are duplicative and unnecessary. I encourage the author to continue engaging my Administration to find innovative pathways to achieve our collective goal to close the Digital Divide once and for all. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom*

**SB 50 (Limón D) Early learning and care.**

**Status:** Vetoed

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** The Child Care and Development Services Act and The Early Education Act require that families meet specified requirements to be eligible for federal- and state-subsidized childcare and development services and preschool programs, including, among other requirements, that the family needs childcare services or full-day preschool because the family is homeless, the child's parents are seeking employment or permanent housing, or the child's parents are employed. The acts require, upon establishing eligibility for services, a family to be considered to meet all eligibility and need requirements for services and to receive those services without being required to report income or other changes for at least 12 months, except as specified. This bill would extend eligibility for childcare and development programs and the preschool program to families in which a member of the family has been certified as eligible to receive benefits from certain means-tested government programs, including Medi-Cal and CalFresh, as specified, and would require those families to submit a self-certification of income for the purposes of prioritizing enrollment and calculating family fees.

**Governor's Message:** *To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 50 without my signature. This bill would make a child who is between 18 months and 3 years old eligible for the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) as long as the child meets*

*all other eligibility requirements and would extend eligibility for federal and state subsidized child care services to a family in which a member of that family has been certified as eligible to receive benefits from other means-tested government programs. Expanding access to high quality early learning and care for babies and toddlers is a priority for my Administration. That's why I worked to make universal transitional kindergarten a reality, strengthen our paid family leave policies, and expand child care slots for children in California. Unfortunately, the timing of this bill is premature as it presupposes how the State Preschool Program will be modified to account for the implementation of universal transitional kindergarten. Next January, modifications will be proposed to the State Preschool Program in the 2022 Budget to align the program with the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care. I appreciate the author's leadership on this issue and look forward to working with her on improving the State Preschool Program and serving more of California's youngest children. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom*

**SB 556 (Dodd D) Street light poles, traffic signal poles: small wireless facilities attachments.**

**Status:** Vetoed

**Position:** Neutral

**Summary:** Would prohibit a local government or local publicly owned electric utility from unreasonably denying the leasing or licensing of its street light poles or traffic signal poles to communications service providers for the purpose of placing small wireless facilities on those poles. The bill would require that street light poles and traffic signal poles be made available for the placement of small wireless facilities under fair, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory fees, as provided. The bill would authorize a local government or local publicly owned electric utility to condition access to its street light poles or traffic signal poles on reasonable terms and conditions, including reasonable aesthetic and safety standards.

**Governor's Message:** *To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 556 without my signature. This bill would restrict the ability of local governments and publicly-owned electric utilities to regulate the placement of small cell wireless facilities on public infrastructure and limit the compensation that may be collected for use of these public assets. In 2018, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted many of the requirements that this bill seeks to codify. The provisions of this bill, however, conflict with and complicate some of the FCC requirements. Further, it would be imprudent to codify these requirements in state law in the event the FCC revises them. There is a role for local governments in advancing our broadband efforts. Part of our achievements laid out in the broadband budget bill, SB 156 (Chapter 112, Statutes of 2020), enables and encourages local governments to take an active role in last mile deployment and, in doing so, drive competition and increase access. My Administration has worked closely with the Legislature on broadband. I look forward to further discussions as we continue to make a meaningful impact on achieving our collective broadband efforts. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom*

**SB 682 (Rubio D) Childhood chronic health conditions: racial disparities.**

**Status:** Vetoed

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law establishes various public health programs for purposes of promoting child and adolescent health, including the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program, which provides for early and periodic health assessments to children in California. This bill would establish the End Racial Inequities in Children's Health in California Initiative (EnRICH CA Initiative). The bill would require the California Health and Human Services Agency, in collaboration with other specified groups and entities, to convene an advisory workgroup, as specified, to develop and implement a plan, as specified, that establishes targets to reduce racial disparities in health outcomes by at least 50% by December 31, 2030, in chronic conditions affecting children, including, but not limited to, asthma, diabetes, dental caries, depression, and vaping-related diseases.

**Governor's Message:** *To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 682 without my signature. This bill would require the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) to convene an advisory workgroup to develop and implement a plan to reduce racial disparities in childhood chronic diseases by at least 50 percent by December 31, 2030. My Administration is strongly supportive of closing the health disparity gap among youth and agrees with the intent of this bill. California must set measurable goals and take meaningful action to reduce disparities in chronic conditions affecting children of color. However, because the bill places performance measures and targets into state statute, it restricts the vital flexibility necessary to account for shifting health equity priorities over the next decade. The bill is also duplicative of efforts already underway, creating unnecessary bureaucratic burden instead of material change. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is analyzing various sources of race/ethnicity data to establish a road map with specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-based goals to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities in Medi-Cal. The 2021 state budget provided historic investments for CHHS to further reorient the administration of its programs using this data to launch an online Health Equity Dashboard. Furthermore, DHCS and the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) are collaborating on the establishment and enforcement of health equity and quality standards for full-service and behavioral health plans, which will include annual benchmark standards for assessing equity and quality in health care delivery that will be enforced by the DMHC. These efforts, coupled with CalAIM and managed care plan procurement, will hold Medi-Cal managed care plans accountable for providing quality and equitable care to the state's most vulnerable populations. I look forward to continuing the work within my Administration, with the Legislature, and with affected communities to address racial disparities in health care, especially as they pertain to children of color, in a manner that is meaningful, effective, and responsive to the latest data and health equity priorities. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom*

**SB 788 (Bradford D) Workers' compensation: risk factors.**

**Status:** Vetoed

**Position:** Watch

**Summary:** Current law establishes a workers' compensation system, administered by the administrative director of the Division of Workers' Compensation, to compensate an employee for injuries sustained in the course of employment. Current law requires a

physician who prepares a report addressing the issue of permanent disability due to an industrial injury to address the cause of the permanent disability in the report, including what approximate percentage of the permanent disability was caused by other factors before and after the industrial injury, if the physician is able to make an apportionment determination. This bill would prohibit consideration of race, religious creed, color, national origin, gender, marital status, sex, sexual identity, or sexual orientation to determine the approximate percentage of the permanent disability caused by other factors. The bill would also express the Legislature's intent to eliminate bias and discrimination in the workers' compensation system.

**Governor's Message:** *To The Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 788 without my signature. This bill would preclude a physician from using certain characteristics as the basis for apportionment of permanent disability. Current law states that physicians shall not apportion the percentage of permanent disability awarded based on the gender, race, or other personal characteristic of the employee and provides protection from the inappropriate application of apportionment law. Instead, physicians are required to apportion the disability award based solely upon the employee's own medical history and medical evidence. While I support efforts to combat bias within the medical profession, this bill creates confusion with well-settled law, which is likely to result in increased litigation and subsequent delays to much-needed benefits to workers. Ongoing efforts by the Division of Workers' Compensation to implement mandatory continuing education of medical-legal evaluators related to current anti-bias laws and apportionment training is better suited to achieve the intent of this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom*