



Foster Youth					
Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Group Position
AB 5	Nazarian D	Foster youth: transition from high school to postsecondary education.	4/6/2015-Re-referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Would require the Department of Social Services to establish a process to authorize educationally based residential programs. This bill would require that the programs support and strive to achieve home-based family care and permanency. The bill would specify that the educationally based residential programs serve certain foster children, as specified. This bill would also require the department to collect and report to the Legislature information about the benefits of the programs, as specified.	CWDA Watch
AB 74	Calderon D	Care facilities: regulatory visits.	4/7/2015-Read second time and amended.	Current law requires the State Department of Social Services to conduct an annual unannounced visit under specified circumstances, including when a license is on probation, and to conduct annual unannounced visits to no less than 20% of the facilities, other than foster family homes, that are not subject to an inspection under those specified circumstances. This bill would instead make every facility of the types described above, except for foster family homes, subject to an annual unannounced visit by the department on and after July 1, 2018. The bill would revise the provisions requiring the department to conduct annual unannounced visits to no less than 20% of the facilities by instead requiring the department to conduct annual unannounced visits to no less than 30% of facilities on or before July 1, 2016, and no less than 40% of those facilities on or before July 1, 2017	CWDA S3
AB 224	Jones-Sawyer D	Pupils: educational liaison for foster children.	4/7/2015-Read second time and amended.	Would require the State Department of Education, in consultation with the California Foster Youth Education Task Force, to develop a standardized notice of the educational rights of foster children, as specified, to post the notice on its Internet Web site, and to make copies of the notice available to educational liaison for foster children for dissemination. The bill would require the department to consult with the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson in developing specified notice provisions. The bill would require an educational liaison for foster children to ensure that public notice of the educational rights of foster children developed by the department is disseminated or posted in a public area at schools where pupils that are foster children are in attendance.	CWDA Watch



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Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Group Position
AB 260	Lopez D	Foster care: parenting youth.	4/7/2015-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on HUM. S. Read second time and amended.	Would declare that a child whose parent has been adjudged a dependent child of the court shall not be considered at risk of abuse or neglect solely on the basis of information concerning the parent's placement history, past behaviors, health or mental health diagnoses occurring prior to the pregnancy , except as specified . This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	CWDA O1
AB 379	Gordon D	Foster youth: complaint of noncompliance.	4/7/2015-Read second time and amended.	Current law authorizes certain foster children living in emergency shelters to receive educational services at the emergency shelter as necessary for short periods of time for specified reasons. Current law requires that all educational and school placement decisions be based on the best interests of the child. This bill would specify that the short period of time described above not exceed 5 schooldays. The bill would specify that all educational and school placement decisions are required to be based on the best interests of the child as determined by the parent or guardian, or other person holding the right to make educational decisions for the pupil.	CWDA Watch
AB 381	Calderon D	Dependent children: placement.	4/6/2015-Re-referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Current law, in cases in which a minor is alleged to be a dependent child of the court on the ground that the minor has suffered abuse or neglect, allows the court to take the child from the physical custody of his or her parents or guardian if there would be a substantial danger to the physical health, safety, protection, or physical or emotional well-being of the minor if the minor were returned home, among other criteria. This bill would require the county social worker and the court, when determining whether placement with a relative is appropriate, to consider the above-described factors on a case-by-case basis.	CWDA Watch
AB 403	Stone, Mark D	Public social services: foster care placement: funding.	4/6/2015-Re-referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Would provide for the reclassification of treatment facilities and the transition from the use of group homes for children in foster care to the use of short-term residential treatment centers, as defined. The bill would impose licensing requirements on those facilities, the violation of which would be a crime pursuant to the act, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	CWDA Watch



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Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Group Position
AB 424	Gaines, Beth R	Court appointed child advocates: wards.	3/24/2015-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 10. Noes 0.) (March 24). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Current law provides that a minor, under certain circumstances, is subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. If the minor has violated a law or ordinance, existing law authorizes the juvenile court to adjudge the minor to be a ward of the court. This bill would authorize the appointment of a Court-Appointed Special Advocate in a juvenile delinquency proceeding, and would provide that a CASA shall be considered court personnel for purposes of inspecting the case file of a dependent child or ward of the juvenile court.	CWDA Watch
AB 592	Stone, Mark D	Juveniles: proof of dependency or wardship.	4/6/2015-Re-referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Would authorize the State Department of Social Services to provide to a person who was previously adjudged a dependent or ward of the juvenile court and placed in foster care, upon request by that person, the proof of dependency or wardship document, as specified, or any information necessary to provide verification that the person was formerly a dependent or ward of the juvenile court and placed in foster care.	CWDA Watch
AB 719	Campos D	Child welfare agencies: missing foster children.	3/12/2015-Referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Would require a county child welfare agency that becomes aware that a child in foster care is missing to report the incident to the police department or sheriff's department and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. By imposing this duty on county child welfare agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	CWDA Watch
AB 854	Weber D	Educational services: pupils in foster care.	3/16/2015-Referred to Com. on ED.	Would authorize a county office of education, or consortium of county offices of education, to apply to the Superintendent for grant funding, to the extent funds are available, to operate an education-based foster youth services program to provide educational support for pupils in foster care. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	
AB 878	Eggman D	Child welfare: foster care.	4/6/2015-Re-referred to Com. on HUM. S.	In order to be eligible for AFDC-FC, current law requires a child or nonminor dependent to be placed in a specified placement, including a licensed group home or an out-of-state group home. Current law provides for the licensing and regulation of community care facilities, including group homes, by the State Department of Social Services. Current law also requires the department to provide oversight of out-of-state group homes, as specified, pursuant to the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children. This bill would, on and after January 1, 2018, eliminate the placement option of a group home or an out-of-state group home.	CWDA Watch



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Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Group Position
AB 885	Lopez D	Foster Youth.	3/19/2015-Referred to Coms. on HUM. S. and JUD.	Current law allows a juvenile court to assume dependency jurisdiction over a nonminor former dependent for purposes of participation in the specified programs under the California Fostering Connections to Success Act who has not attained 21 years of age under specified circumstances, including, among others, the nonminor's former guardian or adoptive parent no longer provides ongoing support to, and no longer receives benefits on behalf of, the nonminor after the nonminor turns 18 years of age. This bill would delete the requirement that the parent or guardian no longer receive aid on behalf of the nonminor before a juvenile court may resume dependency jurisdiction.	CWDA S2
AB 919	Dababneh D	Foster youth: social security insurance.	4/6/2015-Re-referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Existing law requires a county to provide specified information relating to SSI payments to a foster youth receiving those benefits when he or she is approaching his or her 18th birthday. This bill would instead require the county to provide that information to the youth when he or she is approaching his or her 17th birthday. By increasing duties on counties, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	
AB 1067	Gipson D	Foster children: psychotropic medication.	4/6/2015-Re-referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Current law provides that it is the policy of the state that all minors and nonminors in foster care have specified rights, including, among others, the right to be free of the administration of medication or chemical substances, unless authorized by a physician. This bill would additionally specify that all minors and nonminors in foster care have certain additional rights relating to the administration of psychotropic medication, including, among others, to be informed of the risks and benefits of psychotropic medication.	CWDA Watch
AB 1166	Bloom D	Pupils in foster care: pupils who are homeless children or youth: school transfer: exemption from local graduation requirements.	3/23/2015-Referred to Com. on ED.	Current law requires the school district to notify specified individuals, including a pupil in foster care or a pupil who is a homeless child or youth, within 30 calendar days of the date that a pupil who may qualify for the exemption from local graduation requirements transfers into a school, of the availability of the exemption and whether the pupil qualifies for an exemption. This bill would, if the school district fails to provide that notification, declare the effected pupil eligible for the exemption from local graduation requirements once notified, even if that notification is received after the termination of the court's jurisdiction over the pupil or after the pupil is no longer a homeless child or youth, as applicable.	CWDA S3



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Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Group Position
AB 1225	Weber D	Housing: former nonminor dependents: homeless youth.	3/23/2015-Referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Current law makes transitional housing available to any foster child who is at least 16 years of age and not more than 18 years of age who is eligible for AFDC-FC benefits, any nonminor dependent who is eligible for AFDC-FC benefits, and any former foster youth who is at least 18 years of age and not more than 24 years of age who has exited from the foster care system and has elected to participate in the Transitional Housing Program-Plus, as defined, if he or she has not received services pursuant to these provisions for more than a total of 24 months. This bill would additionally make transitional housing available to any former nonminor dependent with special needs and any homeless youth.	CWDA Watch
AB 1299	Ridley-Thomas D	Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services: foster children.	3/23/2015-Referred to Coms. on HUM. S. and HEALTH.	Would declare the intent of the Legislature to ensure that foster children who are placed outside of their county of original jurisdiction, are able to access mental health services in a timely manner consistent with their individualized strengths and needs and the requirements of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program standards and requirements. The bill would require the state Department of Health Care Services to issue policy guidance that establishes the presumptive transfer of responsibility for providing or arranging for mental health services to foster youth from the county of original jurisdiction to the foster child's county of residence, as prescribed.	CWDA Watch
AB 1327	Dahle R	Foster care: transitional housing.	3/23/2015-Referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Transitional housing may, if the State Department of Social Services provides approval, include programs in which a participant lives independently in certain types of housing owned or leased by provider under the supervision of the provider. This bill would delete the requirement that the housing be owned or leased by the provider and would instead require that a provider be responsible for the payment of any contracted rental fees and any penalties for late payment to the property owner.	CWDA Watch
AB 1416	Dababneh D	Foster parent evaluations.	3/26/2015-Referred to Com. on HUM. S.	Would require the State Department of Social Services, in consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association, foster parents, caregivers, and current and former foster youth, to develop and implement a foster parent evaluation process. The bill would require that evaluation process to include a process to allow foster youth over 12 years of age and nonminor dependents to provide feedback on the quality of care received in licensed or certified foster homes and group homes at least once per year and upon any exit from those homes.	CWDA Watch



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Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Group Position
SB 12	Beall D	Foster youth.	4/7/2015-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on JUD.	Would revise the definition of a nonminor dependent and former nonminor dependent to include a person who has not attained 21 years of age, if he or she was subject to an order for foster care placement at any time after reaching 14 years of age, was adjudged a ward of the court on the basis of criminal activity, and if the last custody order of the court did not order his or her return to the physical custody of his or her parent or legal guardian, and would also include a person who has not attained 21 years of age, if he or she was subject to an order for foster care placement, was adjudged a ward of the court on the basis of criminal activity, and was in secure confinement.	CWDA O1
SB 68	Liu D	Minor parents: reunification services.	3/26/2015-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on JUD.	Would require the court to order reunification services for a parent described under specified provisions if the parent was a minor at the time when the facts that gave rise to the condition for the court to deny reunification services occurred. Because providing reunification services imposes additional duties on social workers and other county employees, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	CWDA Watch
SB 214	Berryhill R	Foster care services.	2/26/2015-Referred to Com. on RLS.	Current law declares the intent of the Legislature to preserve and strengthen a child's family ties whenever possible, removing the child from the custody of his or her parents only when necessary for his or her welfare or for the safety and protection of the public. Current law includes various provisions relating to appropriate placement and other services for children in foster care. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to provisions relating to foster children.	CWDA Watch
SB 238	Mitchell D	Foster care: psychotropic medication.	4/7/2015-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on HUMAN S.	Would require the Judicial Council, on or before July 1, 2016, to, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services, the State Department of Health Care Services, and stakeholders, develop updates to the implementation of specified provisions with regard to dependent children and related forms for the administration of psychotropic medications. The bill would require the updates to ensure, among other things, that the child and his or her caregiver and court-appointed special advocate, if any, have an opportunity to provide input on the medications being prescribed, and would require the updates to include a process for periodic oversight by the court of orders regarding the administration of psychotropic medications.	CWDA S1



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Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Group Position
SB 253	Monning D	Dependent children: psychotropic medication.	3/23/2015-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on HUMAN S.	Current law authorizes only a juvenile court judicial officer to make orders regarding the administration of psychotropic medications for a dependent child who has been removed from the physical custody of his or her parent. This bill would require that an order authorizing the administration of psychotropic medications to a dependent child be granted only upon the demonstration of clear and convincing evidence that specified criteria are met, including a requirement that the prescribing physician attest under penalty of perjury that he or she has conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the child, as specified.	CWDA Watch
SB 319	Beall D	Child welfare services: public health nursing.	3/26/2015-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on HUMAN S.	Would require a county to provide the services of a foster care public health nurse to children in foster care by contracting with the community child health and disability prevention program established in that county. The bill would require a foster care public health nurse to monitor each child in foster care who is administered one or more psychotropic medications, as specified. By imposing these additional duties on foster care public health nurses, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.	CWDA Watch
SB 445	Liu D	Pupil instruction and services: homeless children.	3/20/2015-Set for hearing April 8.	Would require a local educational agency serving a homeless child, once a child becomes a homeless child, to allow the homeless child to continue his or her education in the school of origin through the duration of the homelessness, and would set forth related requirements governing the enrollment of homeless children. By imposing additional duties on local educational agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	CWDA Watch
SB 484	Beall D	Juveniles.	3/17/2015-Set for hearing April 14.	The California Community Care Facilities Act provides for the licensure and regulation of community care facilities, including foster family homes and group homes, by the State Department of Social Services. A violation of this act is a misdemeanor. This bill would require the department director to include in that list specified information regarding administering psychotropic medications to children in those facilities.	CWDA Watch
SB 504	Lara D	Court records: sealing.	4/6/2015-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on RLS.	Would only make persons 26 years of age or older liable to reimburse the court, the county, or any city for the cost of services. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	



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Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Group Position
SB 731	Leno D	Foster children: housing: gender identity.	3/24/2015-Set for hearing April 14.	Would require foster children and nonminor dependents in out-of-home-care to be placed according to their gender identity, regardless of the gender or sex listed in their court or child welfare records. The bill would require the division to promulgate regulations implementing these provisions. By expanding the duties of counties relating to the placement of foster children and nonminor dependents, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	CWDA S2
SB 794	Committee on Human Services	Child welfare services.	3/27/2015-Set for hearing April 28.	Would require county child welfare agencies, by September 30, 2016, to develop and implement policies and procedures to identify, document, and determine appropriate services for children and youth who are receiving child welfare services pursuant to federal law and are, or are at risk of becoming, victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The bill would also require county child welfare agencies, by July 1, 2016, to develop and implement specific protocols to expeditiously locate any child missing from foster care, as specified.	CWDA Watch