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Maternal and Child Health-Related Legislation California State Legislature 2016-17 Session

The following are some of the maternal, adolescent, child and reproductive health and health-coverage related bills that have made it to the Governor's Desk for this session. Please let MCHA know of bills we may have missed or any broken links! To read the full text of bills go to www.leginfo.ca.gov to "Bill Information". Thanks especially to Marty Omoto, [CDCAN](#); [California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom](#); [Health Access](#), and the [Western Center on Law and Poverty](#) for some of the updates below.

Access and Insurance Coverage

[AB 17](#)

Author: Hernandez

Topic: Drug Price Transparency

Status: On Governor's Desk

Provides for advance notice and public information of price hikes for most prescription drugs and for information to be made public about the reasons for price increases and the impact on health insurance premiums.

[AB 265](#)

Author: Wood

Topic: Prescription Drug Prices

Status: On Governor's Desk

This bill would prohibit drug companies from offering discounts or other reductions in out-of-pocket costs for a prescription drug if a lower cost drug that is therapeutically equivalent is available

[AB 391](#)

Author: Chiu

Topic: Medi-Cal Asthma Preventive Services

Status: On Governor's Desk

Authorizes DHCS to develop and submit a state plan amendment to permit Medi-Cal to cover and pay for certain asthma services. The bill also directs DHCS to cover asthma education and home environmental asthma trigger assessment services provided by qualified professionals that may fall outside of the state's clinical licensure system if recommended by a licensed practitioner, such as community health workers.

AB 447

Author: Gray

Topic: Diabetes Glucose Monitors

Status: On Governor's Desk

Establishes Medi-Cal coverage for continuous glucose monitoring, which 31 state Medicaid programs cover and California's does not.

SB 133

Author: Hernandez

Topic: Continuity of Care

Status: On Governor's Desk

Would extend the ability for patients to complete a course of care for up to 12 months with a provider if coverage changes to those who purchase coverage in the individual market. This protection is currently only enjoyed by those who have employer-sponsored insurance.

Children

AB 340

Author: Arambula

Topic: Infant and Early Child Trauma Screening

Status: On Governor's Desk

Requires DHCS, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services and others, to convene, by May 1, 2018, an advisory working group to update, amend, or develop, if appropriate, tools and protocols for screening children for trauma as defined, within the EPSDT benefit, as specified. The bill would require this group to report its findings and recommendations, no later than May 1, 2019, and disband on December 31, 2019. The bill would also require, on or before May 1, 2019, the department to identify an existing advisory working group to periodically review and consider the protocols for the screening of trauma in children at least once every 5 years, or upon the request of the department.

SB 63

Topic: Guaranteed Parental Leave

Author: Jackson

Status: Governor’s Desk

The New Parent Leave Act would require employers to allow qualifying employees to take up to 12 weeks of parental leave to bond with a new child within one year of the child’s birth, adoption or foster care placement. The bill will make job-protected parental leave available to an additional 2.7 million Californians.

SB 190

Topic: Ending Juvenile Fees

Author: Mitchell

Status: Governor’s Desk

This bill would eliminate financially burdensome administrative fees for youth involved in the juvenile justice system and their struggling families.

SB 220

Author: Pan

Topic: Medi-Cal Children’s Health Advisory Panel

Status: On Governor’s Desk

This bill would revise the qualification criteria for the parent members of the Medi-Cal Children’s Health Advisory Panel with 3 members who are either Medi-Cal enrollees who have received Medi-Cal benefits or services in relation to a pregnancy, or who are a parent, foster parent, relative caregiver, or legal guardian of a Medi-Cal child.

SB 394

Topic: Juveniles Sentence to Life without Parole

Author: Mitchell

Status: Governor’s Desk

This measure would bring California into compliance with Montgomery v. Louisiana decision that juveniles cannot be sentenced to Life Without Parole. Part of a package of five justice bills by Sen. Mitchell, only some of which went to the Governor.

Eligibility and Enrollment

AB 156

Author: Wood

Topic: Open Enrollment Periods

Status: On Governor’s Desk

Would preserve California’s current three-month annual open enrollment period for Covered California (currently granted by Covered CA but not in law).

[SB 643](#)

Author: Pan

Topic: Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Status: On Governor's Desk

This bill would provide continuity of care to a vulnerable group of children and young adults by adding Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy to the list of medical conditions eligible for the Genetically Handicapped Persons Program, therefore providing children with continuity from CCS to GHPP to provide high quality coordinated medical care and case management services.

Maternal and Child Health

[AB 992](#)

Author: Arambula

Topic: CalWorks Home Visitation

Status: Two-Year Bill

Would establish the CalWORKs Baby Wellness and Family Support Home Visiting Program, a voluntary public health home visiting program to serve pregnant women and families with infants and toddlers in order to improve the health and family outcomes of children born into deep poverty.

Mental Health

[AB 470](#)

Author: Arambula

Topic: Specialty Mental Health

Status: On Governor's Desk

Requires the Department of Health Care Services to develop a performance outcome system for SMH services provided to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Nutrition

[AB 1219](#)

Author: Eggman

Topic: Donated food

Status: On Governor's Desk

This bill would clarify and strengthen the rights of people recovering food, gleaners, or food facilities to donate food without fear of civil or criminal liability relating to the donated food.

SB 138

Author: McGuire

Topic: School meal programs: free and reduced-price meals

Status: On Governor's Desk

This bill would require the state and all school districts to utilize Medi-Cal Direct Certification to enroll students in the federal school meal programs, and for the highest-poverty schools to offer free breakfasts and lunches to all students through a federal universal meal provision.

SB 250

Author: Hertzberg

Topic: School Meal Shaming

Status: On Governor's Desk

Would establish state standards to prevent harmful treatment to school children when their families are unable to pay an unpaid debt to the school food services providers.

SB 278

Author: Wiener

Topic: CalFresh: Overissuances

Status: On Governor's Desk

Would require the Department of Social Services to establish a cost-effective threshold to collect CalFresh overissuances when they were not caused by a client's intentional error or fraud and would require counties to report when mass overissuances were made as a result of county systems failure or negligence.

SB 282

Author: Wiener

Topic: CalFresh Restaurant Meal Program

Status: On Governor's Desk

Would codify the CalFresh Restaurant Meal Program (RMP) for elderly, disabled or homeless recipients in state law. It would also require the Department of Social Services to seek approval for a CalFresh Employment & Training subsidized job program.

SB 557

Author: Hernandez

Topic: Food donations and school meals

Status: On Governor's Desk

Would allow for food from a school cafeteria that has been untouched or unspoiled can be donated to a food bank or another emergency food provider.

Oral Health

Poverty

[AB 480](#)

Author: Gonzalez Fletcher

Topic: CalWorks: Necessary Supportive Services (Diapers)

Status: On Governor's Desk

Would establish diaper benefit low-income parents participating in the CalWORKs welfare-to-work program includes diapers for infants and toddlers.

[AB 1520](#)

Author: Burke

Topic: Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force

Status: Governor's Desk

The task force will develop strategies for dramatically reducing California's child poverty rate, such as investing in proven solutions including voluntary home visiting; high-quality, affordable early childhood education; after-school and summer programs; earned income tax credits for working families; and job training.

[SB 380](#)

Author: Bradford

Topic: CalWorks

Status: On Governor's Desk

Would allow, at the option of the head of household, a step or half-sibling to have their needs excluded from consideration in calculating the family's CalWORKs grant if the child support received for the child is more than the child's portion of the benefit.

Public Health

[AB 607](#)

Author: Gloria

Topic: Disaster CalFresh Program

Status: On Governor's Desk

Would add the Disaster CalFresh Program into statute and establish various requirements of the Department of Social Services and County Human Services Agencies to improve disaster planning and response.

SB 5

Author: DeLeon

Topic: Parks and Water Projects

Status: Governor's Desk

Places a bond measure on the ballot for next June that would provide 4.1 billion in new funding for parks and water projects.

SB 239

Author: Wiener

Topic: HIV and AIDS: criminal penalties

Status: On Governor's Desk

Updates several criminal laws that unfairly target people living with HIV and ensures that California law reflects the current scientific understanding of HIV. Consistent with guidance from the U.S. Department of Justice, the bill maintains criminal penalties for individuals who intentionally transmit or attempt to transmit HIV, or any other serious communicable disease, to another person. The bill also contains provisions that allow a health officer or their designee to use their authority to control the spread of dangerous communicable diseases, such as Ebola, in exigent circumstances.

Reproductive Health

AB 10

Author: Christina Garcia

Topic: Menstrual supplies

Status: On Governor's Desk

Would require that school bathrooms offer an adequate supply of free menstrual supplies in Title 1 Schools grades 6-12.

AB 569

Author: Gonzalez Fletcher

Topic: Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Act

Status: On Governor's Desk

This bill would protect workers from discrimination or retaliation for using any medication, medical service, or device related to reproductive health.

SB 743

Author: Hernandez, Leiva

Topic: Family Planning Services in Medi-Cal Managed Care

Status: On Governor's Desk

This bill would codify existing federal law that prohibits a Medi-Cal managed care plan from restricting the choice of the qualified provider from whom a Medi-Cal beneficiary enrolled in the plan may receive family planning services into state law. The bill would require a Medi-Cal managed care plan to reimburse an out-of-plan or out-of-network qualified provider at the applicable fee-for-service rate.

Trafficking

AB 260

Author: Santiago

Topic: Human Trafficking Public Notices

Status: On Governor's Desk

AB 260 would require lodging businesses to post a notice that contains information related to slavery and human trafficking at a location visible to employees and the public.

SB 225

Author: Stern

Topic: Human Trafficking: Notice

Status: On Governor's Desk

This bill requires the CA Department of Justice to revise its model human trafficking notice to include the option of texting, in addition to calling the state and national hotlines for assistance. Specifically, the bill requires the National Human Trafficking Hotline text number "233-733 (Be Free)" to be included in the notice and makes other technical changes.