Breastfeeding Support Bills:

ACR 113 (Rubio): Status: Chapter 167 by
Breastfeeding Awareness Resolution Secretary of State
(CWA is sponsoring this important resolution to declare August 2017 as Breastfeeding Awareness Month in CA. It will coincide with National Breastfeeding Awareness Month in August. Assembly Member Rubio has agreed to carry this for us. Note: Resolutions do not need to be signed into law by the Governor.
Sponsor: CWA
CWA Position: Support-Sponsor

Public Health Bills:

SB 300 (Monning):
Sugar Sweetened Beverages: Warning Labels Status: Dead Bill
(Author Did Not Bring Up Bill)
This bill would establish the Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Health Warning Act requiring all sugar-sweetened beverages sold in CA in sealed containers or multi-pack containers have a health warning label, as defined.
Sponsor: Senator Monning
CWA Position: SUPPORT

Food Policy Bills:

SB 138 (McGuire):
Utilizing Medi-Cal to Enroll Kids in School Meals Status: Signed Into Law by
Governor Brown
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. For the highest poverty schools, this bill would offer free breakfasts and lunches to all students through a federal universal meal provision.
Sponsor: CA Food Policy Advocates
CWA Position: SUPPORT

SB 250 (Hertzberg):
Anti-Discrimination: School Meal Debt Status: Signed Into Law by
Governor Brown
This bill would establish state standards to prevent harmful treatment to schoolchildren when their families are unable to pay an unpaid debt to the school food services providers.
Sponsor: Western Center, Children’s Defense Fund and Others
CWA Position: SUPPORT
AB 164 (Arambula): Status: Dead Bill
New CalFresh Benefit During Disasters
This bill would establish a new chapter in Welfare and Institutions code which would provide for a
state funded anti-hunger CalFresh benefit to be issued under prescribed circumstances, such as
drought, disaster or in the case of federal SNAP ineligibility and to be issued using the EBT
system.
Sponsor: California Food Policy Advocates
Position: SUPPORT

AB 274 (Garcia) Status: Dead Bill
Defines Snack Foods
This bill states the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that defines the term “snack food”
for the purposes of sales and use taxes.
Sponsor: Author
Position: SUPPORT

SB 717 (Stern) Status: Dead Bill
Food Choice Bill
This measure would enact legislation to develop and implement policy to improve access to more
equitable, sustainable and healthier food choices for all Californians.
Sponsor: Author
Position: SUPPORT

Family Support Bills:

AB 992 (Arambula): Status: Dead Bill
Baby Wellness & Family Home Visiting Program
This 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.
Sponsor: Western Center and Children’s Defense Fund
Position: SUPPORT

SB 63 (Jackson) Status: Signed Into Law by Governor Brown
Parental Leave
This bill would further protect parental leave for bonding with a new child within one year of the
child’s birth, adoption, or foster care placement and by clarifying and making illegal certain
employment practices that limit leave and health care coverage.
Sponsor: Senator Jackson
Position: SUPPORT

SB 18 (Pan):
The Children’s Bill of Rights Status: Dead Bill
This bill, as recently amended, would make legislative findings and declarations relating to the
needs and well-being of children and youth in California. The bill would create, until November
30, 2024, the Joint Legislative Committee on Children and Youth, with 18 members appointed by
the Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly, as specified. The bill would
require the committee to develop “California’s Promise to its Children and Youth,” a framework for
the care and welfare of children and youth in various contexts, including, but not limited to, health care, nutrition, homeless assistance, education, and foster care, as specified. The bill would require the committee to consider an unspecified Senate Concurrent Resolution, the Bill of Rights for the Children and Youth of California, if it is enacted and takes effect on or before January 1, 2018, for purposes of developing the framework.

Sponsor: Dr. Pan
Position: WATCH

AB 236 (Maienschein)  Status: Signed Into Law by Governor Brown

CalWORKs
This bill would make improvements to the CalWORKS Temporary Homeless Assistance Program.
Sponsor: Western Center on Law & Poverty, County Welfare Directors Assoc, and Coalition of CA Welfare Rights Organizations
Position: SUPPORT

AB 557 (Rubio)  Status: Signed Into Law by Governor Brown

CalWORKS and Domestic Violence
This bill would require counties to waive CalWORKs rules that were unfair to a survivor of domestic abuse or would make it more difficult for them to avoid violence.
Sponsor: Western Center on Law & Poverty, CA Partnership to End Domestic Violence, Coalition of CA Welfare Rights Organizations and In Our Own Voice National
Position: SUPPORT

Medical and Dental Bills:

SB 575 (Levya)  Status: Signed Into Law by Governor Brown

Access to Medical Records
This bill would provide low-income Californian’s with free access to their medical records when applying for certain public benefit programs.
Sponsor: Author
Position: SUPPORT

AB 15 (Maienschein)  Status: Dead Bill: Budget Issue Now

Dental Funding
This bill would require the State Department of Health Care Services to double Denti-Cal provider reimbursement rates for the 15 most common prevention, treatment, and oral evaluation services based on certain average rates. Makes an appropriation form the Healthcare Treatment Fund.
Sponsor: Author; CDA Supports “In Concept”
FUNDING SECURED IN STATE BUDGET WITH GENERAL FUND DOLLARS TO RESTORE ADULT DENTAL SERVICES AND TO INCREASE RATES TO DENTAL PROVIDERS UNDER MEDI-CAL
AB 753 (Caballero)  Status: Dead Bill: Budget Issue Now
Dental Funding
This bill would require the Department of Health Care Services to implement specific initiative
designed to significantly improve access to dental services for adults and children in the Medi-Cal
Program, including a Dental Transformation Initiative for adults consistent with the existing goals
and programmatic infrastructure and teledentistry. Would also require an increase in
reimbursement rates of qualified providers for certain pediatric diagnostic and restorative
services.
Sponsor: Author
FUNDING SECURED IN STATE BUDGET WITH GENERAL FUND DOLLARS TO RESTORE ADULT
DENTAL SERVICES AND TO INCREASE RATES TO DENTAL PROVIDERS UNDER MEDI-CA

Note: Dental issues were addressed in the CA State Budget: Adult Dental benefits were
fully restored as of 1/1/18 at $34.8 Million General Fund; $78 million annually after that.
Dental rates for providers were also increased by $140 Million annually.

Immigration Protection Bills:

AB 291 (Chiu)  Status: Signed Into Law by Governor Brown
Protection for Immigrant Tenants
This bill would enact significant protections for immigrant tenants, including prohibiting landlords
from threatening to call immigration authorities and codifying an affirmative defense to evictions
based on immigration status.
Sponsor: Western Center on Law & Poverty & CA Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
Position: SUPPORT

County Contracting Bill:

AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer)  Status: Dead for 2017: 2 Yr. Bill
Limits County Contracts with Outside Entities
This bill would limit outside contracts with entities doing business with county governments.
Legislative Leadership sent this bill back to the Senate Rules Committee and is urging all parties
to work on a solution that addresses this issue. There is disagreement between the labor unions
and the not for profit associations who often represent the poor or disabled who seek to secure
various contracts with local governments.
Sponsor: Labor Unions
Position: OPPOSE CURRENT BILL