2013

CA WIC Association (CWA) Bill Monitor Report

SB 402/De León (Pavley)  Status: SIGNED INTO LAW!
Hospital “Baby Friendly” Or Alternate Process By January 2025
This measure sponsored by the CA WIC Association would require all hospitals in California with a perinatal unit to, by January 1, 2025, adopt the "Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding" as adopted by Baby Friendly USA, per the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, or the Kaiser Tool Kit, or the State Department of Public Health Hospital Model Policies.
CWA Position: SPONSOR

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CalWORKS Bills:

SB 252/Liu  Status: SIGNED INTO LAW!
CalWORKS & Pregnant Women
This bill would exempt from the welfare-to-work provisions of CalWORKs a woman who is pregnant and for whom that the pregnancy impairs her ability to be regularly employed or participate in welfare-to-work activities and a pregnant woman who is participating in a maternal, infant, and early childhood home visiting program or another home visiting program for low-income Californians that is approved by the federal Health and Human Services Agency. The bill also adds a provision clarifying that women are allowed to breastfeed in public locations.
Sponsor: Western Center on Law & Poverty
CWA Position: SUPPORT

AB 271/Mitchell  Status: To S. Approps. Suspense (Dead for This Year)
CalWorks & Medi-Cal Eligibility
This bill would repeal that exclusion for purposes of determining the family’s maximum aid payment and would expressly prohibit the denial of aid or denial of an increase in the maximum aid payment as a result of the birth of a child. The bill would also prohibit the department from conditioning an applicant or recipient’s eligibility for aid on the applicant or recipient’s disclosure of specified information regarding rape, incest, or contraception, as specified.
Sponsor: Western Center on Law & Poverty
CWA Position: SUPPORT

-1-
CalFRESH Bills:

**AB 191/Bocanegra**  
Status: SIGNED INTO LAW!  
*CalFRESH: Categorical Eligibility*  
This bill would require the State Department of Social Services, to the extent permitted by federal law, to waive the CalFresh gross income test for any individual who is categorically eligible for CalFresh and who is a member of a household that receives, or is eligible to receive, medical assistance under the Medi-Cal program. Because counties administer CalFresh, this bill would increase county duties by potentially expanding the eligible population, and would thereby impose a state-mandated local program.  
**Sponsor:** CA Food Policy Advocates  
**CWA Position:** SUPPORT

**SB 672/Leno**  
Status: SIGNED INTO LAW!  
*Working Families Hunger Relief Act*  
This bill simplifies verification of dependent care expenses for working families who receive CalFresh benefits. CalFresh benefits prevent hunger among the working poor with children.  
**CWA Position:** SUPPORT

Healthy Foods & Child Nutrition Bills:

**SB 622/Monning**  
Status: S. Approps: To SUSPENSE  
*(Dead for This Year)*  
*Soda Tax Bill*  
This bill would impose a penny per ounce tax on soft drinks, energy drinks, sports drinks, sweet teas and other sweetened beverages to raise funds for childhood obesity prevention, dental disease and other programs. Note that since this measure contains a tax it will require 2/3rds vote on each floor of the Legislature.  
**Sponsor:** CA Center for Public Health Advocacy  
**CWA Position:** SUPPORT

**AB 459/Mitchell**  
Status: A. Appros: To SUSPENSE  
*(Dead for This Year)*  
*Limits Unhealthy Foods in State Vending Machines & State Buildings*  
This bill would require that at least 50% of the food offered by a vendor in a vending machine on state property, as defined, meet accepted nutritional guidelines by January 1, 2015. The bill would then require 75% compliance with accepted nutritional guidelines by January 1, 2016, and 100% compliance by January 1, 2017. On and after January 1, 2016, the bill would also require that 100% of beverages offered by a vendor in a vending machine on state property also meet the accepted nutritional guidelines. The bill would revise the definition of accepted nutritional guidelines for this purpose.  
**Sponsor:** CA Center for Public Health Advocacy  
**CWA Position:** SUPPORT
AB 38/Perez
Status: A. Approps: To Suspense
(Dead for This Year)

**CA Food, Farms and Jobs Act “Farm to Fork”**
This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would establish the California Food, Farms, and Jobs Act, for the purpose of improving state programs that support local and regional farm and food system infrastructure, expanding access to healthy foods for consumers, and creating new job growth and economic development through increasing the number of direct and retail markets.

**Sponsor:** Speaker Perez
**CWA Position:** MONITOR

AB 290/Alejo
Status: On Governor’s Desk

**Child Day Care: Childhood Nutrition Training**
This bill would provide that for licenses issued on or after January 1, 2015, a director or teacher who receives the health and safety training shall also have at least one hour of childhood nutrition training as part of the preventive health practices course or courses. The bill would require the childhood nutrition training to include content on age-appropriate meal patterns, as specified, and information about participation in the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program.

**Sponsor:** CA Food Policy Advocates
**CWA Position:** SUPPORT

**Special Session Bills on Medi-Cal Expansion and ACA Benefits for Covered California (The Exchange):**

SB 28/Hernandez & Steinberg
Status: SIGNED INTO LAW: CHAPTER 442, STATUTES OF 2013 (SPECIAL SESSION)

This bill would make clarifying changes to conform Medi-Cal changes to Covered California (the health care exchange established by the federal Affordable Care Act) per the ACA.

**Sponsor:** Health Chair Hernandez
**CWA Position:** MONITOR-SUPPORT CONCEPT

AB X 1-1 /Speaker Perez
Status: SIGNED INTO LAW: CHAPTER 3, STATUES OF 2013 (SPECIAL SESSION)

**Medi-Cal Expansion Bill**
This bill would implement provisions of the Medi-Cal Expansion to childless adults up to 138% of FPL as authorized by the federal Affordable Care Act. Also provides for simplification of the Medi-Cal Program.

**Sponsor:** Speaker Perez
**CWA Position:** MONITOR-SUPPORT CONCEPT
SB X 1-1/Hernandez /Steinberg

This bill would implement provisions of the Medi-Cal Expansion to childless adults up to 138% of FPL as authorized by the federal Affordable Care Act. Also provides for simplification of the Medi-Cal Program.

Sponsor: Health Chair Hernandez & Senate Leader Steinberg

CWA Position: MONITOR-SUPPORT CONCEPT

Other Bills:

SB 667/Roth

Egg Safety Bill (CA Grocer's Assoc)
This bill was originally a “spot bill” for the WIC Program statutes. It is a placeholder put in by the CA Grocer’s Association on WIC vendor issues. It has been recently amended to become a bill addressing retail sale of eggs to consumers (safety/protection issue).

Sponsor: CA Grocer’s Association (CGA)

CWA Position: MONITOR

AB 31/Pan
Milk Pricing

This bill would provide a specific formula that the Secretary of Food & Agriculture be required to use to establish the price for class 4b market milk that includes a dry whey value factor that is no less than 80 percent of the dry whey value used in federal milk marketing orders in establishing minimum producer prices. The bill would authorize each handler’s milk plant that purchases class 4b market milk to deduct a dry whey credit, as specified.

CWA Position: MONITOR AND EXPRESS CONCERNS OVER PRICING