



West Sixth Street, Fourth Fl.
Los Angeles, CA 90017-1800
Tel: 213.749.4261
Fax: 213.745.1040
info@mchaccess.org
www.mchaccess.org

October, 2022

Maternal and Child Health-Related Legislation California State Legislature – 2021-22 Session

2021-22 was the second year of a two-year legislative session. The following are some of the Maternal and Child Health and health-coverage related bills signed into law or vetoed 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 <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>. Thanks to [2020 Mom](#), the [Western Center on Law and Poverty](#), The [Children's Partnership](#), and the [California Future of Abortion Council](#) for some of the updates below.

Access and Insurance Coverage

SB 644

Author: Leyva

Subject: Health care coverage outreach

CHAPTERED

Requires EDD to share information with Covered California for outreach to persons applying for or losing unemployment benefits to enroll them in Covered CA or Medi-Cal.

SB 944

Author: Pan

Subject: California Health Benefit Exchange: affordability assistance

VETOED - [message](#)

This bill (identical to AB 1878 (Wood)), would have implemented health care affordability assistance through Covered California.

SB 967

Subject: Health care coverage: tax returns: information sharing authorization and outreach

Author: Hertzberg

CHAPTERED

This bill adds a checkmark on state tax forms for people to indicate if they are interested in receiving information about low-cost health care coverage options.

Budget Bill June, 2022

Subject: Premium payments ended for Medi-Cal

As part of the FY 2022-23 state budget, lawmakers zeroed out (lowered to \$0/month) Medi-Cal premiums for all people that used to pay them: children, pregnant people, and adults with disabilities. Medi-Cal premiums were reduced to zero (i.e., set to \$0.00) effective July 1, 2022. The eligibility systems (AEVS/MEDS and MAXIMUS) should reflect a \$0 balance due.

Children

AB 1394

Subject: Suicide screenings at hospitals

Author: Irwin

CHAPTERED

Confronts the rise in suicide rates by implementing suicide screenings in hospitals for children eight and older.

AB 2832

Subject:

Author: Rivas

CHAPTERED

Establishes the "End Racial and Economic Inequities in Childcare in California Initiative," which requires the California Department of Social Services and the California Department of Education to develop a "Whole Child Equity Framework" and a "Whole Child Community Equity Screening Tool" to provide the data needed to support the equitable distribution of resources and monitor progress on addressing racial and economic inequities.

SB 428

Subject: Health care coverage: adverse childhood experiences (ACES) screenings.

Author: Hurtado

CHAPTERED

This bill would require a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy that provides coverage for pediatric services and preventive care to additionally include coverage for adverse childhood experiences screenings.

Budget Bill June, 2022

Subject: Children, continuous coverage 0-5

Ensures young children up to age 5 have continuous multi-year health coverage, during a time when 90% of their brain development occurs.

Budget Bill June, 2022

Subject: Children's mental health, peer-to-peer

Increases in funding to support children's mental health, including the establishment of a peer-to-peer mental health support program in high schools.

Budget Bill June, 2022

Subject: Children of COVID victims

Establishes the Hope, Opportunity, Perseverance and Empowerment (HOPE) Account Program to provide children who are foster youth or who have lost a parent or guardian due to COVID-19 with a trust fund account.

Disabilities

AB 2483

Subject: Housing for individuals experiencing homelessness

Author: Maienschein

CHAPTERED

This bill authorizes the state to contract with agencies or individuals to assist persons with disabilities in securing their own homes and to provide persons with disabilities with the supports needed to live in their own homes, including supportive housing. This bill would additionally include assistance with independent activities of daily living or personal care, when needed, in the definition of “community living support services”.

Education

SB 1016

Subject: Special education: eligibility; fetal alcohol spectrum disorder

Author: Portantino

CHAPTERED

This bill requires that Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder be included under the “other health impairment,” definition for Individual Education Plans to expand eligibility for pupils to receive special education and related services.

AB 1918

Subject: California Reproductive Health Service Corps

Author: Petrie-Norris

CHAPTERED

Establishes a Reproductive Scholarship Corps to improve the education pipeline for providers and create a more robust and diverse workforce.

Eligibility and Enrollment

Budget Bill June, 2022

Subject: Community Health Navigators

Requires that the California Department of Health Care Services create the Community Health Navigator Program to direct grants to qualified community-based organizations to conduct targeted outreach, enrollment, retention and access activities for Medi-Cal-eligible individuals and families (was in bill form, AB 2680, which died in committee).

Employment

SB 951

Subject: Unemployment insurance: contribution rates: disability insurance: paid family leave: weekly benefit amount.

Author: Durazo

CHAPTERED

This bill increases wage replacement rates to 90 percent for certain workers (individuals making roughly \$57K or less annually) and to 70 percent for everyone else. Goes into effect January 1, 2025

Health Care Services

AB 2697

Subject: Community health worker services

Author: Aguiar-Curray

CHAPTERED

This bill codifies the Department of Health Care Services' proposal to make Community Health Worker/Promotores a Medi-Cal benefit.

SB 923

Subject: Gender-affirming care

Author: Wiener

CHAPTERED

This bill improves access to gender affirming care for transgender, gender diverse, and intersex (TGI) people by requiring health plans to make available and updates a list of

providers who provide gender affirming services and require the Health and Human Services Agency to convene a workgroup to develop quality standards for patient experience to measure cultural competency for TGI patients.

AB 838

Subject: Prescription Drugs

Author: Pan

CHAPTERED

This bill furthers efforts of the California Health and Human Services Agency towards creating a California branded label for generic drugs, and in particular insulin, to increase patient access to affordable drugs and lower health care costs.

SB 987

Subject: Cancer Care

Author: Portantino

CHAPTERED

This bill requires Medi-Cal plans to make good-faith effort to contract with at least one NCI-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center.

AB 1019

Subject: Medi-Cal managed care plans; mental health benefits

Author: Gonzalez

CHAPTERED

This bill requires Medi-Cal plans to conduct annual outreach and education to members and primary care physicians regarding the mental health benefits covered by the plan.

AB 2521

Subject: Transgender, Gender Nonconforming, and Intersex Fund

Author: Santiago

CHAPTERED

This bill renames the Transgender Wellness and Equity Fund to the Transgender, Gender Nonconforming, or Intersex Fund and defines the terms transgender, gender nonconforming, and intersex.

Housing and Homelessness

Maternal-Child Health

AB 1930

Subject: Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program

Author: Arambula

VETOED - [message](#)

This bill would extend the Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP) from the current 60+days postpartum to cover the full year duration of Medi-Cal postpartum eligibility and would extend CPSP Community Perinatal Service Workers to work outside the clinic, in the community, as federally allowed.

SB 1083

Subject: Expand definition of homeless for purpose of CalWORKS

Author: Skinner

CHAPTERED

This bill would help ensure that pregnant people and families who are currently on CalWORKS are able to access and keep their housing by expanding the criteria to determine whether a family is considered homeless to include receiving any notice that could lead to an eviction and requiring a county human services agency to refer a pregnant CalWORKs participant to perinatal home visiting services.

SB 1207

Subject: Maternal Mental Health

Author: Portantino

CHAPTERED

This bill requires insurers/plans to create a more comprehensive maternal mental health plan by July 31, 2023 to include a quality management process including quality measures to encourage screening, diagnosis, treatment, and referral.

AB 2199

Subject: Birthing Justice for California Families Pilot Project

Author: Wicks

VETOED - [message](#)

This bill would have established the Birthing Justice for California Families Pilot Project to fund doula care to members of communities with adverse birth outcomes who are not eligible for Medi-Cal and individuals who are incarcerated

Hunger and Nutrition

AB 2153

Subject: Fruit and vegetable supplemental expansion

Author: Arambula

DIED IN COMMITTEE

Would have expanded the number and geographic diversity of retailers offering supplemental benefits to CalFresh participants.

SB 20

Subject: Student eligibility CalFresh

Author: Dodd

CHAPTERED

Senate Bill 20 requires the Student Aid Commission to proactively notify students of their eligibility for CalFresh benefits. About 100,000 students would benefit from the proposal. It is a follow-up to SB 173, written in 2019 by Sen. Dodd, which streamlined the Cal Fresh application process for college students enrolled in work-study.

SB641**Subject: CalFresh for Students****Author: Skinner****CHAPTERED**

This bill codifies recommendations from the College Hunger Working Group established by AB 1930 (Skinner, 2014), primarily on data to be collected and a workgroup to plan for fall student influx into CalFresh.

SB 1481**Subject: Increased funding for child care meals****Author: Becker****DIED IN COMMITTEE**

This bill would have increased funding for child care meals and end the “pay penalty” that discriminates against daycare home child care providers.

SB 1965**Subject: Able-bodied adults without dependent and CalFresh****Author: Wicks****VETOED - [message](#)**

This bill would protect unemployed Californians from the harsh federal “work for food” ABAWD time limit for CalFresh, not currently in place.

Oral Health

Public Health

AB 2326**Subject: Lead Poisoning Prevention: Laboratory Reporting****Author: Reyes****CHAPTERED**

This bill would require demographic information be reported from laboratories when performing blood lead analysis; authorize CDPH to share data with providers and public agencies; and align state blood lead level standards with federal standards.

Reproductive Health

AB 657**Subject: Expedited Licensure for Abortion Providers****Author: Cooper****CHAPTERED**

Requires the Medical Board, the Osteopathic Medical Board, the Board of Registered Nursing, and the Physician Assistant Board to expedite the licensure process of an applicant who can demonstrate that they intend to provide abortions in California.

AB 1242**Subject: Reproductive Rights****Author: Bauer-Kahan****CHAPTERED**

Prohibits a peace officer from arresting a person for performing or aiding in the performance of a lawful abortion or for obtaining an abortion and prohibits law enforcement agencies from cooperating with or providing information to an individual or agency from another state regarding a lawful abortion. Prohibits specified corporations from providing information to out-of-state entities regarding an abortion.

AB 1666

Subject: Civil Liability

Author: Bauer-Kahan

CHAPTERED

Protects patients and providers from civil liability judgments for providing reproductive health care to patients when the claims are based on laws in other states that are hostile to abortion rights and are contrary to the public policy of California.

AB 2091

Subject: Medical Privacy

Author: Bonta

CHAPTERED

Enhances privacy protections for medical records related to abortion care under California's Reproductive Privacy Act against disclosures to law enforcement and out-of-state third parties seeking to enforce hostile abortion bans in other states.

AB 2134

Subject: California Abortion and Reproductive Equity Act (CARE Act)

Author: Weber

CHAPTERED

Establishes the California Reproductive Health Equity Program, which will provide grants to providers who provided uncompensated abortion and contraceptive care to patients with low-incomes.

AB 2205

Subject: Abortion Premium Transparency

Author: Carrillo

CHAPTERED

Requires qualified health plans under Covered California to report annually to the Department of Insurance and Department of Managed Health Care the total amounts of funds collected in the segregated abortion accounts to create greater transparency.

AB 2223

Subject: Reproductive Health – Provider and Patient Protection

Author: Wicks

CHAPTERED

This bill protects reproductive freedom by ensuring that no one in California will be investigated, prosecuted, or incarcerated for ending a pregnancy or for experiencing pregnancy loss.

AB 2320

Subject: Reproductive Health Care Pilot Program

Author: C. Garcia

VETOED - [message](#)

Would have established a pilot program to direct funds to community health clinics that provide reproductive health care services in 5 counties to address health disparities.

AB 2586

Subject: Reproductive Justice and Freedom Fund

Author: C. Garcia

CHAPTERED

Creates a grant program to fund community-based organizations who provide and promote medically accurate, comprehensive reproductive health information and sexual health education.

AB 2626

Subject: Abortion Provider Protections

Author: Calderon

CHAPTERED

Protects abortion providers by preventing the Medical Board of CA from revoking or suspending a medical license for a licensee providing abortion care in CA and in other states.

SB 1142

Subject: Access and Support for Abortion Patients

Authors: Caballero and Skinner

CHAPTERED

Creates a website with comprehensive and accurate information regarding accessing abortion services in California.

SB 1245

Subject: Los Angeles County Reproductive Pilot Program

Author: Kamlager

CHAPTERED

Establishes a reproductive health pilot project in LA County to support innovative approaches and patient-centered collaborations for abortion.

SB 1375

Subject: Nurse Practitioners and Access to Reproductive Care

Author: Atkins

CHAPTERED

Allows Nurse Practitioners who meet specified criteria to practice independently, without physician supervision, including first-trimester abortion care.

Safety