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**California Public Benefits Legislative Bill & Budget Action Tracker #2021-07**

**November 8, 2021**

Map

Description automatically generated

**2021-2022 State Budget Highlights**

[**AB 135**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB135)**, Chapter 85, Statutes of 2021 &**

**Section 18** – One-time Pandemic Emergency Assistance $640 to all CalWORKs families.

**Section 23**. Development of global telephonic signature for social services programs.

**Section 24**. Photo I.D. requirement for CalWORKs, like the “Voter photo I.D.” for voters in many red states – but not required of CalFresh applicants

**Section 28-** Prohibition of county collection of nonfraudulent overpayment delayed by the county

**Section 32.** Six (6)-month of possible continuation of CalWORKs for parents whose children have been taken away from them by child welfare social workers.

**Section 36**. Pregnant mom reform of 2021 that increases $47 monthly special need payments for the unborn to $100 a month and accepts attestation of pregnancy subject to medical verification in 30 days.

**Section 37**. CalWORKs 5.3% grant increase effective 10-1-21.

**Section 39**. This section would increase the earned income disregard for CalWORKs applicants from $90 established in 1998 to $450.

**Section 44**. Training of County staff relative to trauma-informed, anti-racist, anti-stigma, and implicit bias-aware culture.

**Section 87** – CalFresh benefits for food insecure noncitizens who live in California.

**Section 46**. SSP grants for both individuals and couples to be increased by a percentage that can be accomplished with $291.3 million, beginning January 1, 202

**Section 78**. Telephone Signature for public social services in California.

**[Assembly Human Services Committee](http://ahum.assembly.ca.gov/)**

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**2021 Assembly Human Services Committee Hearing Dates**

**All Support/Oppose letters must be submitted** [**here**](https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/)**.**

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| --- | --- |
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**2020 ASSEMBLY BILLS**

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| **Bill Number Author** | **Sponsor** | **Bill Description** | **Next Steps** |

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| [AB 221](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB221&firstNav=tracking) – [Santiago](https://a53.asmdc.org/) (D)  • Phone: 916-319-2019  • Room # 6027  Staff: Marylin Limon  [Marylin.Limon@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Marylin.Limon@asm.ca.gov) | SUPPORT | **CalFresh**- This bill would require the department to provide a food assistance benefit statewide to low-income California residents, regardless of their immigration status. | Held in Senate  Appropriations  Committee |
| [AB 321](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB321)- [Carlos Villapudua](https://a13.asmdc.org/)  (D)  • Phone: 916-319-2013  • Room # 4162  Staff: Jessica Roca  [jessica.rocha@asm.ca.gov](mailto:jessica.rocha@asm.ca.gov) | SUPPORT | **Child care** - This bill would authorize a part-day California state preschool program for 3- and 4-year-old children in families whose primary language is not English and whose income is above the income eligibility threshold and they will have priority. | Assembly Human  Services  Committee  Two-Year Bill |
| [AB 396](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB396) – [Gabriel (D)](https://a45.asmdc.org/)  • Tel 916-319-2045  • Room # 4117  • Staff: Alpert Dana  [alpert.dana@asm.ca.gov](mailto:alpert.dana@asm.ca.gov) | SUPPORT | **CalFresh**- This bill would require that any college program that meets the requirements CDSS shall meet the CalFresh student exception. | Signed into law, Chapter 461,  statutes of 2021 |
| [AB 461](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB461) - [Carlos Villapudua](https://a13.asmdc.org/)  (D)  • Phone: 916-319-2013  • Room # 4162  • Staff: Jessica Roca  [jessica.rocha@asm.ca.gov](mailto:jessica.rocha@asm.ca.gov) | [CCWRO](https://ccwro.org/)  [WCL&P](https://wclp.org/)  SUPPORT | **CalWORKs**- This bill would define self-employment as a non-core activity – a clean-up bill for AB 79. | On the Governor’s Desk for Signature |
| [AB 548](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB548) – [Carillo (D)](https://a51.asmdc.org/)  • Phone: 916-319-2051  • Room # 4167  • Staff: Jessica Zaragoza  [Jessica.Zaragoza@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Jessica.Zaragoza@asm.ca.gov) | [CCWRO](https://ccwro.org/)  [WCL&P](https://wclp.org/)  SUPPORT | **UI Overpayments (OP)**- This bill would repeal all interest payments added to the actual UI OPs. It would also waive the current UI OPs from 25% recovery of agency caused UI OPs. For non-agency OP that are recovered immediately at 100%, this bill would recover 10% for UI benefits under $400 a week and 25% for OP over $400 a week. | Assembly  Committee on  Insurance  Two-Year Bill |
| [AB 889](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB889)- [Gibson (D)](https://a64.asmdc.org/)  • Phone: 916-319-2051  • Room # 4167  • Staff: Brianna Leon  [Brianna.Leon@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Brianna.Leon@asm.ca.gov) | [CCWRO](https://ccwro.org/)  SUPPORT | This bill would require a qualified entity, defined as a corporation or limited liability company that owns real property that is offered for rent or lease, to report to the Secretary of State specified information regarding the qualified entity. | Held in Senate  Judiciary  Committee |
| [AB 996](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB996) – [Nazarian](https://a46.asmdc.org/) (D)  • Phone: 916-319-2046  • Room # 4146  • Staff: Grace Dikho  [Grace.Dikho@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Grace.Dikho@asm.ca.gov) | SUPPORT  [CCWRO](https://ccwro.org/)  [WCL&P](https://wclp.org/) | **CalWORKs**- This bill would require serve eligible non-school aged children breakfast or a morning snack at a local educational agency school site if the school elects to do so. | Assembly  Education  Committee  Two-Year bill |
| [AB 1004](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1004) – [Calderon](https://a57.asmdc.org/) (D)  • Phone: 916-319-2057  • Room #2137  • Staff: Lucia Saldivar  [Lucia.Saldivar@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Lucia.Saldivar@asm.ca.gov) | SUPPORT | **CalWORKs**- The bill would exempt the census income or stipend if the temporary work is related to the decennial census and would make this provision retroactive and applicable to income or a stipend paid by any of the above entities for temporary work related to the most recent decennial census. | Signed into law, Chapter 99,  statutes of 2021 |
| [**AB 1326**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1326) **–** [**Arambula**](https://a31.asmdc.org/) **(D)**  • Phone: 916-319-2031  • Room #5155 Staff: Eusevio Padilla  [Eusevio.Padilla@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Eusevio.Padilla@asm.ca.gov) | SUPPORT | **CalWORKs**- This bill would require the county to designate a county staff liaison for community college staff. | On the Governor’s Desk for Signature |
| [AB 1461](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1461) – [Reyes](https://a47.asmdc.org/) (D)  • Phone: 916-319-2057  • Room #2175  • Staff: Cynthia Gomez  [Cynthia.gomez@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Cynthia.gomez@asm.ca.gov) | [CCWRO](https://ccwro.org/)  [WCL&P](https://wclp.org/)  SUPPORT | **CalWORKs**- This bill would prohibit the discontinuance of those services due to the denial of a visa application if the individual is eligible for those services on another basis. The bill would add to the categories of eligible noncitizen victims for the services individuals who have filed a formal application with the appropriate federal agency for status or relief under the federal Violence Against Women Act or for special immigrant juvenile status, as specified. | Vetoed by the Governor on 10-05-2021 |
| [AB 1538](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1538) – [Quirk](https://a20.asmdc.org/) (D)  • Phone: 916-319-2020  • Room #2163  Staff: Tomasa Duenas  [tomasa.duenas@asm.ca.gov](mailto:tomasa.duenas@asm.ca.gov) | SUPPORT | **CalWORKs**- This bill would require research relative to poverty, measuring poverty and efforts to ameliorate poverty. | Held in Committee |

Senate Human Services Committee

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**2021 Senate Human Services Committee**

**All Support/Oppose letters must be submitted** [**here**](https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/)**.**

|  |  |
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| Senate Member | **Human Services Staff** |
| **Senator** [**Melissa Hurtado**](https://sd14.senate.ca.gov/)**, (D) Chair**  • Phone: 651-4014 • Fax: 651-4914 • Room # 2016 | Marisol Ibarra  Email: [Marisol.ibarra@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Marisol.ibarra@sen.ca.gov) |
| **Senator** [**Brian Jones**](https://jones.cssrc.us/)**, (R) Vice- Chair**  • Phone: 651-4038 • Fax: 651-49 • Room # 4088 | Brixton Layne  Email: [brixton.layne@sen.ca.gov](mailto:brixton.layne@sen.ca.gov) |
| Senator [Dave Cortese](https://sd15.senate.ca.gov/) (D)  • Phone: 651-4015 •Fax: 651-4915 • Room # 2082 | Andrea Amavisca  Email: [Andrea.amavisca@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Andrea.amavisca@sen.ca.gov) |
| Senator [Sydney Kalmager](https://sd30.senate.ca.gov/) (D)  • Phone: 651-4030- • Fax: 651-4930 • Room # 4062 | Nikki Neda Ashtari  Email: [Neda.Ashtari@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Neda.Ashtari@sen.ca.gov) |
| Senator [Richard Pan](https://sd06.senate.ca.gov/) (D)  • Phone: 651-4006 • Fax: 651-4906 • Room # 5114 | Davon Thomas  Email: [davon.thomas@sen.ca.gov](mailto:davon.thomas@sen.ca.gov) |

**2021 SENATE BILLS**

|  |  |  |  |
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| **Bill Number Author** | **Sponsor** | **Bill Description** | **Next Steps** |
| [**SB 20**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB20) **-** [**Dodd (D)**](https://sd03.senate.ca.gov/)  Room # 4032  Phone 916-651-4003  Staff: Heather Hopkins  [Heather.hopkins@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Heather.hopkins@sen.ca.gov) | [CCWRO](http://www.ccwro.org/)  [University of California](https://ucsa.org/)  [Student](https://ucsa.org/)  [Association](https://ucsa.org/)  [WCL&P](https://wclp.org/)  SUPPORT | **CalFresh-** This bill would also require the require maximizing the opportunity for students to qualify for CalFresh benefits student exemption and provide that the California Student Aid Commission will provide verification needed to qualify for CalFresh as appropriate. | Two-Year Bill |
| [**SB 65**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB65)[**Skinner (D)**](https://sd09.senate.ca.gov/)  Room # 5094  Phone 916-651-4009  Staff: Jessica Bartholow  [jessica.bartholow@sen.ca.gov](mailto:jessica.bartholow@sen.ca.gov) | Western Center on Law &  Policy  SUPPORT | **CalWORKs & Medi-Cal-** This bill would make significant improvements the Medi-Cal and CalWORKs programs for pregnant CalWORKs and Medi-Cal beneficiaries. | Signed into law, Chapter 449,  statutes of 2021 |
| [**SB 107**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB107) **–** [**Wiener (D)**](https://sd11.senate.ca.gov/)  Room 5100  Phone 916-651-4011  Staff: Cassidy Denny  [Cassidy.denny@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Cassidy.denny@sen.ca.gov) | [Nourish California](https://nourishca.org/)  SUPPORT | **CalFresh-** This bill would allow CalFresh beneficiaries to complete their application and recertification by phone and would simplify the CalFresh application process for the elderly and disabled. | Two-Year bill |
| [**SB 364**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB364) **–** [**Skinner**](https://sd09.senate.ca.gov/) **(D)**  Room 5094  Phone 916-651-4009  Staff: Jessica Bartholow  [Jessica.bartholow@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Jessica.bartholow@sen.ca.gov) | SUPORT | **Pupil Meals-** This bill would allow free pupil meals to continue beyond the pandemic and set up the BOOST program making pupil meals available during school breaks longer than one week or school closures due to declared disasters. | Held in Assembly  Appropriations  Committee |
| [**SB 454**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB454) **–** [**Bates**](https://bates.cssrc.us/) **(R)**  Room 3063  Phone 916-651-4036  Staff: Brianna Yadon  [Brianna.Yadon@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Brianna.Yadon@sen.ca.gov) | SUPPORT  County of  Orange | **Child Support-** This bill would define “support obligor is delinquent in payment of support” to mean that the support obligor is $5,000 in arrears on their support obligation. | Held in Assembly  Appropriations  Committee |
| [**SB 464**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB464) **–** [**Hurtado(**](https://sd14.senate.ca.gov/)**D)**  Room 2016  Phone 916-651-4041 | SUPPORT  [Nourish California](https://nourishca.org/) | **CalFresh-** This bill, commencing January 1, 2023, would instead make a noncitizen applicant eligible for the California Food Assistance Program if the noncitizen satisfies all eligibility criteria for participation in the CalFresh program except any requirements related to immigration status. The bill would, commencing January 1, 2023, eliminate the distinctions based on when the noncitizen applicant entered the country and would eliminate the sponsorship and other listed criteria requirements for eligibility on a noncitizen who entered the country on or after August 22, 1996. | Held in Assembly  Appropriations  Committee |
| [**SB 768**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB768) **–** [**Glazer**](https://sd07.senate.ca.gov/) **(D)**  Room 5108  Phone 916-651-4007  Staff: Alexxis Frost  [Alexxis.frost@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Alexxis.frost@sen.ca.gov) | [CCWRO](http://www.ccwro.org/)  [University of California](https://ucsa.org/)  [Student](https://ucsa.org/)  [Association](https://ucsa.org/)  SUPPORT | **CalFresh-** This is a clean up for SB 1232. Makes some technical changes to include non-credited units, include non-profit postsecondary educational institutions and repeal SIPs for college students who are covered by SB 1232 anyhow. | Two Year Bill |

[**Assembly Appropriations Committee**](applewebdata://613E6B3F-F62A-4DA6-AD1D-8012E6A2E931#http://apro.assembly.ca.gov/)

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**Every Wednesday 9 a. m., Room 4202 -** [**See Committee Hearing Agenda**](http://apro.assembly.ca.gov/hearings)

**[Senate Committee on Appropriations](http://sapro.senate.ca.gov/)**

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| [Senator Patricia Bates - (R) (V- Chair)](http://senate.ca.gov/sd36) | 3036 | 916-651-4036 | Cynthia Bryant | [Cynthia.Bryant@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Cynthia.Bryant@sen.ca.gov) |
| [Steven Bradford](http://sd35.senate.ca.gov/) - (D) | 2059 | 916-651-4035 | Chase Hopkins | [Chase.Hopkins@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Chase.Hopkins@sen.ca.gov) |
| [Brian Jones](https://jones.cssrc.us/) - (R) | 2054 | 916-651-4038 | Danielle Parsons | [Danielle.Parsons@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Danielle.Parsons@sen.ca.gov) |
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| [John Laird](https://sd17.senate.ca.gov/)- (D) | 4040 | 916-651-4017 | Lesley Brizuela | [Lesley.Brizuela@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Lesley.Brizuela@sen.ca.gov) |
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**Every Monday 10 am, Room 4203 -** [**See Committee Hearing Agenda**](file:///Users/kevinaslanian/Desktop/See%20Committee%20Hearing%20Agenda)

2021 State Budget Committees

Assembly Budget Subcommittee Committee # 1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Assembly Budget Committee Sub #1 | Staff | Staff |
| [Joaquin Arambula](https://a31.asmdc.org/) (D), Chair  • Phone: 916-319-2031  • Fax: 916-319-2131 • Room # 5155 | Karen Jones | [karen.jones@asm.ca.gov](mailto:karen.jones@asm.ca.gov) |
| [Jim Frazier](https://a11.asmdc.org/) (D) • Phone: 319-20711  • Fax: 319-2111 • Room. #: 3091 | Marc Engrtrom | [marc.engstrom@asm.ca.gov](mailto:marc.engstrom@asm.ca.gov) |
| [Devon Mathis](https://ad26.asmrc.org/) (R) • Phone: 319-2026  • Fax: 319-2126 •Room. #: 2111 | Aaron Rice | [aaron.rice@asm.ca.gov](mailto:aaron.rice@asm.ca.gov) |
| [Jim Patterson](https://ad23.asmrc.org/) (R) • Phone: 319-2023  • Fax: 319-2123 •Room. #: 3132 | Christine Rose | [Christine.rose@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Christine.rose@asm.ca.gov) |
| [James Ramos](https://a40.asmdc.org/) (D) • Phone: 319-2040  • Fax: 319-2140 •Room. #: 4162 | Adriana Ruelas | [Adriana.Ruelas@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Adriana.Ruelas@asm.ca.gov) |
| [Blanca Rubio](https://a48.asmdc.org/) (D) • Phone: 319-2048  • Fax: 319-2148 • Room, #: 5175 | Daniel Folwarkpow | [daniel.folwarkpow@asm.ca.gov](mailto:daniel.folwarkpow@asm.ca.gov) |
| [Jim Wood](https://a02.asmdc.org/) (D) • Phone: 319-2002  • Fax: 319-2102 • Room, #: 6005 | Tobias Uptan-Villa | [tobias.uptan-villa@asm.ca.gov](mailto:tobias.uptan-villa@asm.ca.gov) |
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| Republican Committee Consultant  • Phone: 319-3900 • Fax: 319-3902 | Joseph Shinstock | [joseph.shinstock@asm.ca.gov](mailto:joseph.shinstock@asm.ca.gov) |

**Sub #1 Hearings for 2021**

**State Budget Bill for 2021-2022 –** [**AB 128**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB128)

**[Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee Sub #3 –](https://sbud.senate.ca.gov/subcommittee3)**

**[Health & Human Services](https://sbud.senate.ca.gov/subcommittee3)**

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| Senate Budget Committee Sub #3 | **Staff** | **Email Address** |
| [Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman](https://sd05.senate.ca.gov/) (D) Chair  • Phone: 651-4005 • Room #: 5097 | David  Stammerjohan | [David.Stammerjohan@sen.ca.gov](mailto:David.Stammerjohan@sen.ca.gov) |
| Senator [Melissa Melendez](https://melendez.cssrc.us/) (R)  • Phone: 651-4028 • Room #4082 |  |  |
| Senator [Richard Pan](https://sd06.senate.ca.gov/), (D)  • Phone: 651-4006 • Room #: 5114 | Bernadette Lawrence | [bernadette.lawrence@sen.ca.gov](mailto:bernadette.lawrence@sen.ca.gov) |

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| **Subcommittee Staff** |

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| Committee Democratic Consultant  • Phone: 651-4103 • Fax: 323-8386  • Room #: 5097 | Renita Polk, | [renita.polk@sen.ca.gov](mailto:renita.polk@sen.ca.gov) |
| Committee Republican Consultant  • Phone: 651-1501 • Fax: 414-3681  • 1020 “N”, Suite 234, Sacramento,  CA 95814 | Rebecca  Hamilton | [Rebecca.hamilton@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Rebecca.hamilton@sen.ca.gov) |

**2021-2022 Legislative Session for 2021 - Over**

**CCWRO Services for IOLTA Qualified Legal Services Field Programs**

**CCWRO -** The Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, Inc. (CCWRO) is a state- wide nonprofit organization providing support services to qualified legal service field programs (QLSPs) funded by the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission. CCWRO has been providing support services for the past 35 years.

**CCWRO** provides consultation, information and representation for IOLTA qualified legal services programs regarding public benefit programs such as: CalWORKs, CalFresh, also known as Food Stamps or SNAP, General Assistance and General Relief, SSI, Welfare to Work and other Public Assistance Programs.

**CCWRO** maintains current information on the status of pending or recently proposed and enacted state and federal legislation and regulations.

**CCWRO** collects, monitors and disseminates statistical information relating to public assistance programs throughout California to legal services programs statewide.

**CCWRO** provides public benefits training upon request depending on availability of staff.

**Programs Covered**

• CalWORKs

• Cash Assistance to Immigrants (CAPI)

• Child Care

• Child Support

• CalFresh, also known as Food Stamps or SNAP

• General Assistance/ General Relief

• In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

• Medi-Cal

• Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)

• Welfare Immigration

• SSI eligibility issues

• Welfare-to-Work (WtW)

**Services CCWRO provides:**

- Immediate response to questions from legal services programs regarding public benefit programs, laws and regulations.

- Collects and disperses statistical information and analysis on the public assistance programs, including statistical information upon request from qualified legal services program.

- Provides status information on pending state legislation and regulations.

- Legislative Advocacy

- Administrative Advocacy

- Co-counsel on administrative lawsuits.

- Client representation assistance at fair hearings.

**CCWRO Staff**

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