

CCWRO Welfare Bill & Budget Action Tracker #2023-05 May 5, 2023



Administration's Manufactured CFAP Expansion Delay Tactics Exposed

What does CFAP Expansion do? It simplifies the CFAP program. Today county workers must verify the applicant's immigration status. Under CFAP expansion there is no need to verify immigration status.

75,000 Senior Californians who do not have a CFAP required immigration status are denied CalFresh benefits and endure food insecurity even though they have paid millions of dollars into the California tax coffers over the years.

On 7-16-21 the Governor signed AB 135, Statutes of 2021, Sections 86 and 87 – CFAP Expanded effective 6-30-22. A similar provision was included in the FY 22-23 budget trailer bill SB 187 – Statutes of 2022, Section 84- CFAP Expanded. It is now 2023 and the FY 23-24 Governor's budget proposes to delay the implementation until 2027.

The administration's delay tactics while thousands of tax paying and tax paid aged, blind and disabled immigrants endure food insecurity is callous.

ADMINISTRATON DELAY TACTIC # 1.

Need approval from FNS to do CFAP expansion – Was this done in 2021? 2022? Is the Biden Administration being blamed for California's immigrant food insecurity?

ADMINISTRATON DELAY TACTIC # 2.

Case Codes R6/R9 WINS CFAP? Current Aid Code is R-3 New Aid Code S1 for TCVAP & S2 for CFAP Expansion. What's wrong with R3?

ADMINISTRATON DELAY TACTIC # 3.

Force People in Mixed Households to opt in rather than opting out – creating barriers to participation.

ADMINISTRATON DELAY TACTIC # 4.

Create New Policies that are not needed

ADMINISTRATON DELAY TACTIC # 5.

Create new CFAP Expansion Notices of Actions when there is no need for new notices. The current notices can work fine.

ADMINISTRATON DELAY TACTIC # 6.
Automation – 24-months – CalSAWS and
CWDA have publicly stated that they can
automate this by 1-1-24.

[Assembly Human Services Committee](#)

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Assembly Bills

All Support/Oppose letters must be submitted [here](#).

| Bill Number Author | Sponsor | Bill Description | Next Steps |
|--|--|---|--|
| AB 94 – Davies (R) • Phone – 916-319-2074 • Room # 4720 • Taylor Medoly Taylor.melody@asm.ca.gov | WCLP and CCWRO | This bill would prohibit a call, made by or on behalf of a county for the purposes of administering public social services programs, to an applicant or recipient of benefits from blocking caller identification information and would require the call to display a telephone number. | Assembly Appropriation Committee Suspense File |
| AB 274 - Isaac Bryan • Phone – 916-319-2055 • Room # 5630 • Staff- Amy Ho Amy.Ho@asm.ca.gov | GRACE , and CCWRO | This bill would exempt as income for CalWORKs or CalFresh purposes any student assistance that is not means-tested. | Assembly Appropriation Committee Suspense File |
| AB 310 – Arambula (D) • Phone – 916-319-2031 • Room # 8130 Staff –K.Jones k.jones@asm.ca.gov | GRACE , WCLP and CCWRO | CalWORKs Reform Bill that will change the name from CalWORKs to CalFamily and WtW to Family Assistance and reducing sanctions. | Assembly Appropriation Committee Suspense File |
| AB 311 – Santiago (D) • Phone – 916-319-2054 • Room # 6150 Staff – Clarissa Dominguez clarissa.dominguez@asm.ca.gov | NourishCa CIPC | This bill would provide CalFresh benefits to all eligible Californians without regards to their immigration status. | Assembly Appropriation Committee Suspense File |
| AB 325 – Reyes (D) • Phone – 916-319-2050 • Room # 8210 • Staff- Ivan Fernandez Ivan.Fernandez@asm.ca.gov | WCLP and CCWRO | The bill would expand CalWORKs benefits to noncitizen victims of parental maltreatment, noncitizen children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned, and noncitizens who fear persecution. | Assembly Appropriation Committee Suspense File |
| AB 366 – Petri-Norris (D) • Phone – 916-319-2073 • Room # 4230 | CWDA | This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to improve | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff – Rajeena Bisla rajeena.bisla@asm.ca.gov | | and increase recruitment and retention of county human services staff to support county operations. | |
| <p>AB 372 – Stephanie Nguyen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone – 916-319-2010 • Room # 5720 • Staff – Emily Berry emily.baerry@asm.ca.gov | | This bill would exempt apprenticeship program or pre- apprenticeship program income for CalWORKs, including child care stage 2 and 3. | Assembly Appropriation Committee |
| <p>AB 435 – Cerventes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone – 916-319-2058 • Room # 6120 • Staff – Vanessa Orozco Vanessa.Orozco@asm.ca.gov | WCLP and CCWRO | This bill would require BenefitsCal to allow CAPI applicants to apply on-line as CalSAWS agreed to do in 2020 and provide equitable services to immigrants by requiring that county webpages include information about immigrant services and benefits. | Assembly Appropriation Committee Suspense File |
| <p>AB 843 – Juan Carillo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone – 916-319-2039 • Room # 4320 • Staff – Matthew Godinez Matthew.godinez@asm.ca.gov | WCLP and CCWRO | This bill would codify the Ortega court decision and make changes relative to replacing skimmed CalFresh and CalWORKs benefits consistent with new federal law. | Assembly Appropriation Committee |
| <p>AB 870 – Arambula (D)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone – 916-319-2031 • Room # 8130 Staff – K.Jones k.jones@asm.ca.gov | | This bill would require CDSS to convene a workgroup to develop recommendations to enhance public benefits to students. | Assembly Appropriation Committee |
| <p>AB 928 - Reyes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone – 916-319-2050 • Room # 8210 • Staff- Marina Espinoza marina.espinoze@asm.ca.gov | | This bill would require CDSS to annually update the CalFresh student dashboard. | Assembly Appropriation Committee |
| <p>AB 991 - Alvarez</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone – 916-319-2080 • Room # 5320 • Staff- Cynthia Yopez Cynthia.Yopez@asm.ca.gov | WCLP and CCWRO | This bill would require counties to accept changes effecting their public social services through email too. | Assembly Appropriation Committee |
| <p>AB 1148 - Bonta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone – 916-319-2018 • Room # 5320 • Staff- Haybee Dominquez Haybee.Dominquez@asm.ca.gov | Root&Rebo nt | This bill would require persons released from prison will have 18 months to start paying child support that | Assembly Appropriation Committee |

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| y | | they can. | |
| AB 1457 – Ortega • Phone (916) 916-319-2020 • Room # 5620 Staff: Candace Riley Candace.Riley@asm.ca.gov | AFSCME | This bill would require that merit and civil service employees can make eligibility decisions for CalWORKs, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, CAPI, CFAP, IHSS and APS programs. | Passed the Assembly and waiting for Senate Action |
| AB 1536 – – Juan Carillo • Phone – 916-319-2039 • Room # 4320 • Staff – Brenda Contreras Brenda.Contreras@asm.ca.gov | CHIRLA | Assembly Human Services Committee on 3-28-23 | Assembly Appropriation Committee Suspense File |

[Senate Human Services Committee](#)

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| Senator Aisha Wahab • Phone (916) 651-4410 • Room # 7330 | Freddie Quantana, Legislative Aid freddie.quantana@sen.ca.gov |

Senate Bills

All Support/Oppose letters must be submitted [here](#).

| Bill Number Author | Sponsor | Bill Description | Next Steps |
|---|---|--|---|
| SB 36 - Skinner • Phone (916) 651-4009 •Room # 8630 Staff: Kapri Walker Kapri.Walker@Sen.Ca.Gov | CCWRO | This would limit the fleeing felon rule to those required by federal and exclude any person who is fleeing to avoid prosecution for abortion in another state. The bill would also prohibit anybody from being arrested for avoiding prosecution for abortion in another state. | Senate Appropriation Committee Suspense File |
| SB 242 - Skinner • Phone (916) 651-4009 •Room # 8630 Staff: | GRACE and CCWRO | This bill would, to the extent permitted by federal law, prohibit funds deposited and investment returns accrued in a HOPE trust fund account from being considered as income or assets when determining eligibility and benefit amount for any means-tested program until an eligible youth withdraws or transfers the funds from the HOPE trust fund account, as specified | Senate Appropriation Committee Suspense File |
| SB 260 -Menjivar • Phone (916) 651-4020 •Room # 6720 Staff: Kimberly Fuentes Kimberly.Fuentes@sen.ca.gov | California Highschool Democrats | This bill would provide CalWORKs beneficiaries with a monthly standard payment for menstrual products. | Senate Appropriation Committee Suspense File |
| SB 299 – Eggman • Phone (916) 651-4005 •Room #8530 Staff: Jen Flory Jen.flory@sen.ca.gov | Author | Under current law if the Medi-Cal redetermination form is returned to the county, the county is supposed to issue a notice and mail it to the same | Senate Appropriation Committee Suspense File |

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| | | address that it come from. This bill would not allow the notice to be mailed to the same address that was invalid. | |
| SB 343- Skinner • Phone (916) 651-4009 •Room # 8630 Staff: Elme Lizardi elmer.lizardi@Sen.ca.gov | CWCLP and CCWRO | This bill would makes changes in the child support system that would improve the system and comply with federal law. | Senate Appropriation Committee |
| SB 462- Wahab • Phone (916) 651-4410 •Room # 6530 Staff: Zachariah Oquenda Zachariah.Oquenda@sen.ca.gov | Author | This bill would make persons eligible for UI benefits who were unlawfully detained or lawfully detained or arrested, but the charge is subsequently dismissed. | Senate Appropriation Committee |
| SB 479 – Padilla • Phone (916) 651-4018 •Room # 6640 Staff: Silverio Rizollamas Silverio.Rizollamas@sen.ca.gov | Author | This bill would make persons eligible for UI benefits who were unlawfully detained or lawfully detained or arrested, but the charge is subsequently dismissed. | Passed the Senate – Assembly Action coming soon |
| SB 491- Durazo • Phone (916) 651-4026 •Room # 7530 Staff: Fernando Ramirez Fernando Ramirez@sen.ca.gov | WCLP and CCWRO | This bill would require a county to develop and implement a program to ensure residents without a permanent mailing address have a place to receive and pick-up all government-related mail addressed to them. | Senate Appropriation Committee |
| SB 521- Smallwood-Cuevas • Phone (916) 651-4028 •Room # 6510 Staff: Jasmine Prasad jasmine.prasad@sen.ca.gov | | This bill would add denial of reasonable accommodations for pregnant or parenting students, in violation of Title IX, to the list of conditions for good cause of WtW. | Senate Appropriation Committee |
| SB 600 - Menjivar • Phone (916) 651-4020 •Room # 6720 Staff: Kimberly Fuentes Kimberly.Fuentes@sen.ca.gov | NourishCa | This bill would require that all CalFresh beneficiaries must receive at a minimum \$50 a month. | Senate Appropriation Committee |
| SB 773 – Glazer • Phone (916) 651-4007 •Room # 7520 Staff: Shosana Levy shoshana.levy@sen.ca.gov | CCWRO Lead Support | This bill would allow homeless families to receive permanent homeless assistance in certain situations when their rent is | Senate Appropriation Committee Suspense File |

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| | | above 80% of their income. | |
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Assembly Budget Committee Subcommittee # 1

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2023-2024 Assembly Budget Bill [AB 221](#)

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023
 BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 1 ON
 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 ARAMBULA, Chair
 1:30 p.m. — State Capitol, Room 444
 ANTI-POVERTY AND SAFETY NET PROGRAMS
 FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Department of Social Services
 • Governor’s Proposals for CalWORKs, CalFresh,

Housing and Homelessness, and Equity and Immigration Programs
 • Major Policy Changes, Budget Change Proposals, and Trailer Bill Language Proposals
 • Oversight Issues – Basic Needs of Families and Children in Deep Poverty, Food Insecurity and CalFresh/Emergency Food Programs, Utilization of Housing and Homelessness Programs, and Immigration Service Needs
 • Department of Child Support Services

- Governor's Proposals and Program Update

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023

BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 1 ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ARAMBULA, Chair
1:30 p.m. — State Capitol, Room 444

- California Health and Human Services Agency, Office of Systems Integration, California Health and Human Services Agency, Center for Data Insights and Innovation

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023

BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 1 ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ARAMBULA, Chair
1:30 p.m. — State Capitol, Room 444

AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE HUMAN
SERVICES PROGRAMS

Department of Social Services

- Budget and Program Update for In-Home Supportive Services, Adult Protective Services (including Home Safe), Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (including Housing Disability Advocacy Program), and the Master Plan for Aging (MPA)
- Major Policy Changes, Budget Change Proposals, and Trailer Bill Language Proposals
- Oversight Issues – Senior Homelessness and Senior Poverty

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 1 ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ARAMBULA, Chair
1:30 p.m. — State Capitol, Room 444
SPRING FINANCE LETTERS AND OPEN ISSUES
ALL HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

Department of Social Services

- April 15, 2023 Report on CalWORKs Outcomes and Accountability Review (Cal-OAR) Optimization and How This Relates to the Work Participation Rate (WPR) County Penalty Pass

Senate Budget Committee Subcommittee # 3

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2023-2024 Senate Budget Bill [SB 72](#)

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| Senator Richard D. Roth • Phone (916) 651-4031 •Room # 7510 | Mikaila Kruse | mikaila.kruse@sen.ca.gov |

Subcommittee #3 Hearing Dates and Topics

All hearings scheduled for 9:30 a.m., or upon adjournment of Session (unless otherwise noted) -Room 1200

Thursday, March 2

0530 California Health and Human Services
Agency

Thursday, March 9

4170 Department of Aging

- 4185 California Senior Legislature
- 5180 Department of Social Services

In-Home Supportive Services
SSI/SSP

Housing and Homelessness Programs

Adult Protective Services

Thursday, April 13

- 5175 Department of Child Support Services
- 5180 Department of Social Services

Child Welfare Services
Child Care and Development

Thursday, April 27

- 4700 Community Services and Development
- 5180 Department of Social Services

Automation Systems

- 5180 Department of Social Services

CalWORKs

CalFresh

Immigration Programs

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 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.

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