

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 70**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Monning**

December 16, 2010

---

---

An act to add Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 127640) to Part 2 of Division 107 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 70, as introduced, Monning. California Health and Human Services Agency: public health: federal grant opportunities.

Existing federal law, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) (Public Law 111-148), requires the federal Secretary of Health and Human Services to award competitive community transformation grants to state and local governmental agencies and community-based organizations for the implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of evidence-based community preventive health activities in order to reduce chronic disease rates, prevent the development of secondary conditions, address health disparities, and develop a stronger evidence base of effective prevention programming.

Existing federal law, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA), provides for the issuance of federal grants to states and local educational agencies for various programs that support the provision of school lunches, breakfasts, and summer food service and improve the quality and availability of healthful food in underserved communities.

This bill would require the California Health and Human Services Agency to direct the appropriate departments within the agency to apply for federal community transformation grants under the PPACA and

HHFKA, as specified. The bill would require the agency to direct the appropriate departments within the agency to make information regarding federal grant opportunities under the PPACA and, if applicable, the HHFKA available to local government agencies, local public health departments, school districts, state and local nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes through existing channels, and by placing a link on each relevant department’s existing Internet Web site.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares as follows:
- 2 (a) Given the significant fiscal challenges ahead for California,
- 3 it is important for the Legislature to ensure that state agencies
- 4 maximize their opportunity to obtain additional federal funds,
- 5 particularly in cases where doing so could offset state General
- 6 Fund costs or assist the state with the transformation of California’s
- 7 health care system and the health and well-being of California’s
- 8 children, under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care
- 9 Act (PPACA) (Public Law 111-148) and the Healthy, Hunger-Free
- 10 Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA) (Public Law 111-296).
- 11 (b) The PPACA is a historic opportunity for California to
- 12 prioritize preventive health programs that have been demonstrated
- 13 to save valuable health care dollars, produce positive patient
- 14 outcomes in a cost-effective manner, and move the current health
- 15 care system away from managing disease and toward prevention
- 16 and health promotion in order to improve the health of Californians.
- 17 (c) The HHFKA is a historic opportunity to improve the health
- 18 and well-being of California’s children, prevent hunger, and reduce
- 19 the costly burden of diseases such as obesity and Type II diabetes.
- 20 It provides valuable new federal resources for federal child nutrition
- 21 programs; requires the United States Department of Agriculture
- 22 to make significant improvements in the nutritional standards of
- 23 school meals; and provides federal grant funding to support
- 24 nutrition education and obesity prevention for low-income children
- 25 and families.
- 26 (d) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this act to take
- 27 full advantage of the opportunities through the PPACA and
- 28 HHFKA to improve state health care and nutrition programs and

1 invest in health prevention and education, with the goal of building,  
2 promoting, and sustaining healthy communities through a  
3 community prevention focus that includes efforts toward the  
4 reduction of chronic disease rates, the elimination of conditions  
5 that lead to health disparities, and an increase in the cultural and  
6 linguistic appropriateness of health and nutrition services.

7 (e) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage the California  
8 Health and Human Services Agency and departments within the  
9 agency to maintain flexibility in internal processes in order to be  
10 responsive to PPACA and, as appropriate, HHFKA grant  
11 opportunity timelines.

12 SEC. 2. Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 127640) is added  
13 to Part 2 of Division 107 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

14  
15 CHAPTER 5. COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANTS

16  
17 127640. (a) The California Health and Human Services Agency  
18 shall direct the appropriate departments within the agency to apply  
19 for federal grants under Sections 4002 and 4201 of the federal  
20 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148)  
21 and the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law  
22 111-296) to allow the state to develop a stronger evidence base of  
23 effective prevention programming and engage in prevention and  
24 health education activities that achieve, at a minimum, all of the  
25 following:

26 (1) The creation of healthier school environments, including,  
27 but not limited to, healthful food options, free drinking water, and  
28 physical activity.

29 (2) The creation of an infrastructure to support active living and  
30 access to nutritious foods.

31 (3) The development and promotion of programs targeting a  
32 variety of age levels to increase healthy eating, physical activity,  
33 food security, smoking cessation, mental health, and safety, as  
34 well as address special population needs.

35 (4) The promotion and improvement of access to healthful food  
36 options in schools, communities, worksites, and other settings.

37 (5) The assessment and implementation of worksite wellness  
38 programs.

39 (6) The prioritization of strategies to address inequities that lead  
40 to racial and ethnic health disparities.

1 (b) The agency shall direct the appropriate departments within  
2 the agency to make information regarding federal grant  
3 opportunities under Sections 4002 and 4201 of the federal Patient  
4 Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) and the  
5 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-296)  
6 available to local government agencies, local public health  
7 departments, school districts, state and local nonprofit  
8 organizations, and Indian tribes through existing channels, and by  
9 placing a link on each relevant department's existing Internet Web  
10 site.

O