

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 6, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013—14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 357**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Pan**

February 14, 2013

---

---

An act to add Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 124167) to Chapter 3 of Part 2 of Division 106 of the Health and Safety Code, *and to repeal Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 12693.90) of Part 6.2 of Division 2 of the Insurance Code*, relating to child health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 357, as amended, Pan. ~~California Healthy Child Advisory Task Force—Children's Health Advisory Board.~~

Existing law requires the State Department of Health Care Services *the state* to implement and administer various child health and disease prevention programs. *Existing law establishes the Healthy Families Advisory Board, a 15-member advisory panel appointed by the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board. Existing law provides for the transition of children from the Healthy Families Program to Medi-Cal, including the transfer of the Healthy Families Advisory Board to the State Department of Health Care Services.*

This bill would ~~require the California Health and Human Services Agency to establish~~ *repeal the Healthy Families Advisory Board and instead rename and recast the board as the California Healthy Child Advisory Task Force Children's Health Advisory Board*, an independent, statewide advisory body charged with developing a vision for children's health in the state, among other tasks. The bill would also provide related legislative findings and declarations.

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 all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) The health and well-being of California’s children should
- 4 be among the state’s top priorities, and it is imperative that every
- 5 child in California has meaningful health coverage with benefits
- 6 that support healthy growth and development.
- 7 (b) Children’s health coverage should encompass more than
- 8 just treatment of diseases and illnesses, but also cover services and
- 9 care to promote healthy development and well-being.
- 10 (c) All children should receive care that meets recognized
- 11 standards of practice.
- 12 (d) For the first time in history, the current generation of children
- 13 is likely to be less healthy than their parents and live shorter lives.
- 14 (e) The incidences and types of chronic disease in children have
- 15 both increased and changed dramatically over the past four decades.
- 16 One in five children have a mental health problem, and the number
- 17 of overweight children has tripled for preschoolers and adolescents
- 18 and quadrupled for children 6 to 11 years of age, inclusive.
- 19 (f) Approximately 1.1 million children in California are
- 20 uninsured, and the quality of children’s health services and access
- 21 to these services reflect significant disparities in geographic, racial,
- 22 ethnic, and socioeconomic status.
- 23 (g) Children with special health care needs are often those who
- 24 experience the greatest challenges in accessing a variety of the
- 25 high-quality services they need.
- 26 (h) The administration and delivery of child health programs is
- 27 often ineffective, uncoordinated, and incomplete with little
- 28 accountability for quality.
- 29 (i) The modern epidemics facing children today have lifelong
- 30 consequences and present significant costs to the economy. The
- 31 failure to ensure the health of our children may jeopardize their
- 32 ability to function effectively as adults and for our state and nation
- 33 to remain strong and competitive in our global society.

1 ~~SEC. 2.— Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 124167) is added~~  
2 ~~to Chapter 3 of Part 2 of Division 106 of the Health and Safety~~  
3 ~~Code, to read:~~

4  
5 ~~Article 7.5. California Healthy Child Advisory Task Force~~  
6

7 ~~124167. The California Health and Human Services Agency~~  
8 ~~shall establish the California Healthy Child Advisory Task Force,~~  
9 ~~an independent, statewide advisory body charged with developing~~  
10 ~~a vision for children’s health in California, making~~  
11 ~~recommendations on improving child health systems, and setting~~  
12 ~~goals and standards for children’s health coverage that include~~  
13 ~~developmentally appropriate health promotion and other support~~  
14 ~~services.~~

15 ~~SEC. 2. Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 124167) is added~~  
16 ~~to Chapter 3 of Part 2 of Division 106 of the Health and Safety~~  
17 ~~Code, to read:~~

18  
19 ~~Article 7.5. Children’s Health Advisory Board~~  
20

21 ~~124167. (a) The Healthy Families Advisory Board established~~  
22 ~~by former Section 12693.90 of the Insurance Code is hereby~~  
23 ~~renamed the Children’s Health Advisory Board.~~

24 ~~(b) The Children’s Health Advisory Board shall be an~~  
25 ~~independent, statewide advisory board that shall develop a vision~~  
26 ~~for children’s health in California, make recommendations on~~  
27 ~~improving child health systems, and set goals and standards for~~  
28 ~~children’s health coverage.~~

29 ~~(c) The membership of the advisory board shall be composed~~  
30 ~~of the following 15 members:~~

31 ~~(1) One member who is a licensed, practicing dentist, appointed~~  
32 ~~by the Governor.~~

33 ~~(2) One representative from a licensed nonprofit primary care~~  
34 ~~clinic, appointed by the Governor.~~

35 ~~(3) One representative of the mental health provider community,~~  
36 ~~appointed by the Governor.~~

37 ~~(4) One representative from the health plan community,~~  
38 ~~appointed by the Governor.~~

39 ~~(5) One representative from the business community, appointed~~  
40 ~~by the Governor.~~

1 (6) *One physician and surgeon who is board certified in the*  
2 *area of family practice medicine, appointed by the Senate*  
3 *Committee on Rules.*

4 (7) *One representative from a licensed hospital that is on the*  
5 *disproportionate share list maintained by the State Department*  
6 *of Health Care Services, appointed by the Senate Committee on*  
7 *Rules.*

8 (8) *One representative of the substance abuse provider*  
9 *community, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules.*

10 (9) *One representative of the county public health provider*  
11 *community, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules.*

12 (10) *One representative from the education community,*  
13 *appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules.*

14 (11) *Three representatives from the Medi-Cal population,*  
15 *appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.*

16 (12) *One physician and surgeon who is board certified in*  
17 *pediatrics, appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.*

18 (13) *One representative from a family with children with special*  
19 *needs, appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.*

20 (d) *The advisory board members shall have demonstrated*  
21 *expertise in providing health-related services to children 18 years*  
22 *of age and under, as applicable.*

23 (e) *The advisory board shall elect, from among its members, its*  
24 *chair.*

25 (f) *The advisory board's powers and duties shall include, but*  
26 *not be limited to, all of the following:*

27 (1) *To advise the Director of Health Care Services on all*  
28 *policies, regulations, and operations of the Medi-Cal program.*

29 (2) *To consider all written recommendations of the advisory*  
30 *board and respond in writing when the Director of Health Care*  
31 *Services rejects the advice of the advisory board.*

32 (3) *To meet at least quarterly, unless deemed unnecessary by*  
33 *the chair.*

34 (g) *The members of the advisory board shall be reimbursed for*  
35 *all necessary travel expenses associated with the activities of the*  
36 *advisory board.*

37 (h) *The State Department of Health Care Services shall provide*  
38 *staff assistance to the advisory board.*

39 (i) *The Legislature does not intend the addition of this section*  
40 *to result in a new board but is instead a continuation of the prior*

1 *board established by former Section 12693.90 of the Insurance*  
2 *Code, and therefore no new board members shall be appointed*  
3 *until a vacancy occurs.*

4 *SEC. 3. Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 12693.90) of*  
5 *Part 6.2 of Division 2 of the Insurance Code is repealed.*

O