

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 19, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1579**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Stone**  
(Principal coauthor: Senator Mitchell)

January 30, 2014

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An act to amend, repeal, and add Section 11450 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to public social services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1579, as amended, Stone. CalWORKs: pregnant women.

Existing federal law provides for allocation of federal funds through the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant program to eligible states. Existing law provides for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program under which, through a combination of state and county funds and federal funds received through the TANF program, each county provides cash assistance and other benefits to qualified low-income families. Existing law provides that when a family does not include a needy child qualified for aid under CalWORKs, aid shall be paid to a pregnant mother for the month in which the birth is anticipated and for the 3-month period immediately prior to the month in which the birth is anticipated.

This bill would, beginning July 1, 2015, instead provide that when a family does not include a needy child qualified for aid under CalWORKs, aid shall be paid to a pregnant woman for the month in

which the birth is anticipated and for the 6-month period immediately prior to the month in which the birth is anticipated. *The bill would also authorize these provisions to be implemented by means of all-county letters or similar instructions until regulations are adopted.*

Existing law continuously appropriates moneys from the General Fund to defray a portion of county costs under the CalWORKs program.

This bill would instead provide that the continuous appropriation would not be made for purposes of implementing the bill.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
2 Healthy Babies Act of 2014.

3 SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

4 (a) Women who experience multiple stressful situations during  
5 pregnancy, such as homelessness, hunger, violence, and deep  
6 poverty, are more likely to have premature and low birth weight  
7 babies, or to experience high rates of mother and infant mortality.  
8 The cost of medical care for pre-term births is much higher than  
9 for full-term births, and the human costs of infant mortality are  
10 immeasurable.

11 (b) Children whose birth mothers experience the harmful stressor  
12 of deep poverty are more likely to suffer poor health and less likely  
13 to succeed academically.

14 (c) Domestic violence causes more health problems among  
15 pregnant women than any other single cause. Without the support  
16 of the CalWORKs program, low-income pregnant women have  
17 few alternatives and are more likely to endure abuse that will cause  
18 long- and short-term harm to both themselves and their unborn  
19 fetus.

20 SEC. 3. Section 11450 of the Welfare and Institutions Code,  
21 as amended by Section 37 of Chapter 21 of the Statutes of 2013,  
22 is amended to read:

23 11450. (a) (1) Aid shall be paid for each needy family, which  
24 shall include all eligible brothers and sisters of each eligible  
25 applicant or recipient child and the parents of the children, but  
26 shall not include unborn children, or recipients of aid under Chapter  
27 3 (commencing with Section 12000), qualified for aid under this

1 chapter. In determining the amount of aid paid, and notwithstanding  
 2 the minimum basic standards of adequate care specified in Section  
 3 11452, the family’s income, exclusive of any amounts considered  
 4 exempt as income or paid pursuant to subdivision (e) or Section  
 5 11453.1, determined for the prospective semiannual period  
 6 pursuant to Sections 11265.1, 11265.2, and 11265.3, and then  
 7 calculated pursuant to Section 11451.5, shall be deducted from  
 8 the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for  
 9 cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph  
 10 (2). In no case shall the amount of aid paid for each month exceed  
 11 the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for  
 12 cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph  
 13 (2), plus any special needs, as specified in subdivisions (c), (e),  
 14 and (f):

15 16 Number of 17 eligible needy 18 persons in 19 the same home	Maximum aid
20 1.....	\$ 326
21 2.....	535
22 3.....	663
23 4.....	788
24 5.....	899
25 6.....	1,010
26 7.....	1,109
27 8.....	1,209
28 9.....	1,306
29 10 or more.....	1,403

30  
 31 If, when, and during those times that the United States  
 32 government increases or decreases its contributions in assistance  
 33 of needy children in this state above or below the amount paid on  
 34 July 1, 1972, the amounts specified in the above table shall be  
 35 increased or decreased by an amount equal to that increase or  
 36 decrease by the United States government, provided that no  
 37 increase or decrease shall be subject to subsequent adjustment  
 38 pursuant to Section 11453.

39 (2) The sums specified in paragraph (1) shall not be adjusted  
 40 for cost of living for the 1990–91, 1991–92, 1992–93, 1993–94,

1 1994–95, 1995–96, 1996–97, and 1997–98 fiscal years, and through  
2 October 31, 1998, nor shall that amount be included in the base  
3 for calculating any cost-of-living increases for any fiscal year  
4 thereafter. Elimination of the cost-of-living adjustment pursuant  
5 to this paragraph shall satisfy the requirements of Section 11453.05,  
6 and no further reduction shall be made pursuant to that section.

7 (b) (1) When the family does not include a needy child qualified  
8 for aid under this chapter, aid shall be paid to a pregnant child who  
9 is 18 years of age or younger at any time after verification of  
10 pregnancy, in the amount that would otherwise be paid to one  
11 person, as specified in subdivision (a), if ~~the child,~~ *child* and her  
12 child, if born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter.  
13 Verification of pregnancy shall be required as a condition of  
14 eligibility for aid under this subdivision.

15 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the family does not  
16 include a needy child qualified for aid under this chapter, aid shall  
17 be paid to a pregnant woman for the month in which the birth is  
18 anticipated and for the three-month period immediately prior to  
19 the month in which the birth is anticipated, in the amount that  
20 would otherwise be paid to one person, as specified in subdivision  
21 (a), if the woman and child, if born, would have qualified for aid  
22 under this chapter. Verification of pregnancy shall be required as  
23 a condition of eligibility for aid under this subdivision.

24 (3) Paragraph (1) shall apply only when the Cal-Learn Program  
25 is operative.

26 (c) The amount of forty-seven dollars (\$47) per month shall be  
27 paid to pregnant ~~mothers~~ *women* qualified for aid under subdivision  
28 (a) or (b) to meet special needs resulting from pregnancy if the  
29 ~~mother,~~ *woman* and child, if born, would have qualified for aid  
30 under this chapter. County welfare departments shall refer all  
31 recipients of aid under this subdivision to a local provider of the  
32 Women, ~~Infants~~ *Infants*, and Children program. If that payment  
33 to pregnant ~~mothers~~ *women* qualified for aid under subdivision (a)  
34 is considered income under federal law in the first five months of  
35 pregnancy, payments under this subdivision shall not apply to  
36 persons eligible under subdivision (a), except for the month in  
37 which birth is anticipated and for the three-month period  
38 immediately prior to the month in which delivery is anticipated,  
39 if the ~~mother,~~ *woman* and ~~the~~ child, if born, would have qualified  
40 for aid under this chapter.

1 (d) For children receiving AFDC-FC under this chapter, there  
2 shall be paid, exclusive of any amount considered exempt as  
3 income, an amount of aid each month ~~which~~, *that*, when added to  
4 the child's income, is equal to the rate specified in Section 11460,  
5 11461, 11462, 11462.1, or 11463. In addition, the child shall be  
6 eligible for special needs, as specified in departmental regulations.

7 (e) In addition to the amounts payable under subdivision (a)  
8 and Section 11453.1, a family shall be entitled to receive an  
9 allowance for recurring special needs not common to a majority  
10 of recipients. These recurring special needs shall include, but not  
11 be limited to, special diets upon the recommendation of a physician  
12 for circumstances other than pregnancy, and unusual costs of  
13 transportation, laundry, housekeeping services, telephone, and  
14 utilities. The recurring special needs allowance for each family  
15 per month shall not exceed that amount resulting from multiplying  
16 the sum of ten dollars (\$10) by the number of recipients in the  
17 family who are eligible for assistance.

18 (f) After a family has used all available liquid resources, both  
19 exempt and nonexempt, in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100),  
20 with the exception of funds deposited in a restricted account  
21 described in subdivision (a) of Section 11155.2, the family shall  
22 also be entitled to receive an allowance for nonrecurring special  
23 needs.

24 (1) An allowance for nonrecurring special needs shall be granted  
25 for replacement of clothing and household equipment and for  
26 emergency housing needs other than those needs addressed by  
27 paragraph (2). These needs shall be caused by sudden and unusual  
28 circumstances beyond the control of the needy family. The  
29 department shall establish the allowance for each of the  
30 nonrecurring special ~~need~~ *needs* items. The sum of all nonrecurring  
31 special needs provided by this subdivision shall not exceed six  
32 hundred dollars (\$600) per event.

33 (2) Homeless assistance is available to a homeless family  
34 seeking shelter when the family is eligible for aid under this  
35 chapter. Homeless assistance for temporary shelter is also available  
36 to homeless families ~~which~~ *that* are apparently eligible for aid  
37 under this chapter. Apparent eligibility exists when evidence  
38 presented by the applicant, or ~~which~~ *that* is otherwise available to  
39 the county welfare department, and the information provided on  
40 the application documents indicate that there would be eligibility

1 for aid under this chapter if the evidence and information were  
2 verified. However, an alien applicant who does not provide  
3 verification of his or her eligible alien status, or a woman with no  
4 eligible children who does not provide medical verification of  
5 pregnancy, is not apparently eligible for purposes of this section.

6 A family is considered homeless, for the purpose of this section,  
7 when the family lacks a fixed and regular nighttime residence; or  
8 the family has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised  
9 publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary  
10 living accommodations; or the family is residing in a public or  
11 private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular  
12 sleeping accommodation for human beings. A family is also  
13 considered homeless for the purpose of this section if the family  
14 has received a notice to pay rent or quit. The family shall  
15 demonstrate that the eviction is the result of a verified financial  
16 hardship as a result of extraordinary circumstances beyond their  
17 control, and not other lease or rental violations, and that the family  
18 is experiencing a financial crisis that could result in homelessness  
19 if preventative assistance is not provided.

20 (A) (i) A nonrecurring special-~~need~~ *needs benefit* of sixty-five  
21 dollars (\$65) a day shall be available to families of up to four  
22 members for the costs of temporary shelter, subject to the  
23 requirements of this paragraph. The fifth and additional members  
24 of the family shall each receive fifteen dollars (\$15) per day, up  
25 to a daily maximum of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125).  
26 County welfare departments may increase the daily amount  
27 available for temporary shelter as necessary to secure the additional  
28 bedspace needed by the family.

29 (ii) This special-~~need~~ *needs benefit* shall be granted or denied  
30 immediately upon the family's application for homeless assistance,  
31 and benefits shall be available for up to three working days. The  
32 county welfare department shall verify the family's homelessness  
33 within the first three working days and if the family meets the  
34 criteria of questionable homelessness established by the  
35 department, the county welfare department shall refer the family  
36 to its early fraud prevention and detection unit, if the county has  
37 such a unit, for assistance in the verification of homelessness within  
38 this period.

39 (iii) After homelessness has been verified, the three-day limit  
40 shall be extended for a period of time which, when added to the

1 initial benefits provided, does not exceed a total of 16 calendar  
2 days. This extension of benefits shall be done in increments of one  
3 week and shall be based upon searching for permanent housing  
4 which shall be documented on a housing search ~~form~~; *form*, good  
5 ~~cause~~; *cause*, or other circumstances defined by the department.  
6 Documentation of a housing search shall be required for the initial  
7 extension of benefits beyond the three-day limit and on a weekly  
8 basis thereafter as long as the family is receiving temporary shelter  
9 benefits. Good cause shall include, but is not limited to, situations  
10 in which the county welfare department has determined that the  
11 family, to the extent it is capable, has made a good faith but  
12 unsuccessful effort to secure permanent housing while receiving  
13 temporary shelter benefits.

14 (B) (i) A nonrecurring special ~~need~~ *needs benefit* for permanent  
15 housing assistance is available to pay for last month's rent and  
16 security deposits when these payments are reasonable conditions  
17 of securing a residence, or to pay for up to two months of rent  
18 arrearages, when these payments are a reasonable condition of  
19 preventing eviction.

20 ~~The~~

21 (ii) ~~The~~ last month's rent or monthly arrearage portion of the  
22 payment ~~(i)~~ (I) shall not exceed 80 percent of the family's total  
23 monthly household income without the value of CalFresh benefits  
24 or special needs *benefit* for a family of that size and ~~(ii)~~ (II) shall  
25 only be made to families that have found permanent housing  
26 costing no more than 80 percent of the family's total monthly  
27 household income without the value of CalFresh benefits or special  
28 needs for a family of that size.

29 ~~However,~~

30 (iii) ~~However,~~ if the county welfare department determines that  
31 a family intends to reside with individuals who will be sharing  
32 housing costs, the county welfare department shall, in appropriate  
33 circumstances, set aside the condition specified in ~~clause (ii) of the~~  
34 ~~preceding paragraph~~; *subclause (II) of clause (ii)*.

35 (C) The nonrecurring special ~~need~~ *needs benefit* for permanent  
36 housing assistance is also available to cover the standard costs of  
37 deposits for utilities which are necessary for the health and safety  
38 of the family.

39 (D) A payment for or denial of permanent housing assistance  
40 shall be issued no later than one working day from the time that a

1 family presents evidence of the availability of permanent housing.  
2 If an applicant family provides evidence of the availability of  
3 permanent housing before the county welfare department has  
4 established eligibility for aid under this chapter, the county welfare  
5 department shall complete the eligibility determination so that the  
6 denial of or payment for permanent housing assistance is issued  
7 within one working day from the submission of evidence of the  
8 availability of permanent housing, unless the family has failed to  
9 provide all of the verification necessary to establish eligibility for  
10 aid under this chapter.

11 (E) (i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii), eligibility  
12 for the temporary shelter assistance and the permanent housing  
13 assistance pursuant to this paragraph shall be limited to one period  
14 of up to 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance and  
15 one payment of permanent assistance. Any family that includes a  
16 parent or nonparent caretaker relative living in the home who has  
17 previously received temporary or permanent homeless assistance  
18 at any time on behalf of an eligible child shall not be eligible for  
19 further homeless assistance. Any person who applies for homeless  
20 assistance benefits shall be informed that the temporary shelter  
21 benefit of up to 16 consecutive days is available only once in a  
22 lifetime, with certain exceptions, and that a break in the consecutive  
23 use of the benefit constitutes permanent exhaustion of the  
24 temporary benefit.

25 (ii) A family that becomes homeless as a direct and primary  
26 result of a state or federally declared natural disaster shall be  
27 eligible for temporary and permanent homeless assistance.

28 (iii) A family shall be eligible for temporary and permanent  
29 homeless assistance when homelessness is a direct result of  
30 domestic violence by a spouse, partner, or roommate; physical or  
31 mental illness that is medically verified that shall not include a  
32 diagnosis of alcoholism, drug addiction, or psychological stress;  
33 or, the uninhabitability of the former residence caused by sudden  
34 and unusual circumstances beyond the control of the family  
35 including natural catastrophe, fire, or condemnation. These  
36 circumstances shall be verified by a third-party governmental or  
37 private health and human services agency, except that domestic  
38 violence may also be verified by a sworn statement by the victim,  
39 as provided under Section 11495.25. Homeless assistance payments  
40 based on these specific circumstances may not be received more

1 often than once in any 12-month period. In addition, if the domestic  
2 violence is verified by a sworn statement by the victim, the  
3 homeless assistance payments shall be limited to two periods of  
4 not more than 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance  
5 and two payments of permanent assistance. A county may require  
6 that a recipient of homeless assistance benefits who qualifies under  
7 this paragraph for a second time in a 24-month period participate  
8 in a homelessness avoidance case plan as a condition of eligibility  
9 for homeless assistance benefits. The county welfare department  
10 shall immediately inform recipients who verify domestic violence  
11 by a sworn statement pursuant to clause (iii) of the availability of  
12 domestic violence counseling and services, and refer those  
13 recipients to services upon request.

14 (iv) If a county requires a recipient who verifies domestic  
15 violence by a sworn statement to participate in a homelessness  
16 avoidance case plan pursuant to clause (iii), the plan shall include  
17 the provision of domestic violence services, if appropriate.

18 (v) If a recipient seeking homeless assistance based on domestic  
19 violence pursuant to clause (iii) has previously received homeless  
20 avoidance services based on domestic violence, the county shall  
21 review whether services were offered to the recipient and consider  
22 what additional services would assist the recipient in leaving the  
23 domestic violence situation.

24 (vi) The county welfare department shall report *necessary data*  
25 to the department through a statewide homeless assistance payment  
26 indicator system, ~~necessary data~~, as requested by the department,  
27 regarding all recipients of aid under this paragraph.

28 (F) The county welfare departments, and all other entities  
29 participating in the costs of the CalWORKs program, have the  
30 right in their share to any refunds resulting from payment of the  
31 permanent housing. However, if an emergency requires the family  
32 to move within the 12-month period specified in subparagraph  
33 (E), the family shall be allowed to use any refunds received from  
34 its deposits to meet the costs of moving to another residence.

35 (G) Payments to providers for temporary shelter and permanent  
36 housing and utilities shall be made on behalf of families requesting  
37 these payments.

38 (H) The daily amount for the temporary shelter special-need  
39 *needs benefit* for homeless assistance may be increased if

1 authorized by the current year's Budget Act by specifying a  
2 different daily allowance and appropriating the funds therefor.

3 (I) No payment shall be made pursuant to this paragraph unless  
4 the provider of housing is a commercial establishment, shelter, or  
5 person in the business of renting properties who has a history of  
6 renting properties.

7 (g) The department shall establish rules and regulations ensuring  
8 the uniform *statewide* application-~~statewide~~ of this section.

9 (h) The department shall notify all applicants and recipients of  
10 aid through the standardized application form that these benefits  
11 are available and shall provide an opportunity for recipients to  
12 apply for the funds quickly and efficiently.

13 (i) Except for the purposes of Section 15200, the amounts  
14 payable to recipients pursuant to Section 11453.1 shall not  
15 constitute part of the payment schedule set forth in subdivision  
16 (a).

17 The amounts payable to recipients pursuant to Section 11453.1  
18 shall not constitute income to recipients of aid under this section.

19 (j) For children receiving Kin-GAP pursuant to Article 4.5  
20 (commencing with Section 11360) or Article 4.7 (commencing  
21 with Section 11385) there shall be paid, exclusive of any amount  
22 considered exempt as income, an amount of aid each month, which,  
23 when added to the child's income, is equal to the rate specified in  
24 Sections 11364 and 11387.

25 (k) (1) This section shall become operative on April 1, 2013.  
26 A county shall implement the semiannual reporting requirements  
27 in accordance with the act that added this section no later than  
28 October 1, 2013.

29 (2) Upon *completion of the* implementation described in  
30 paragraph (1), each county shall provide a certificate to the director  
31 certifying that semiannual reporting has been implemented in the  
32 county.

33 (3) Upon filing the certificate described in paragraph (2), a  
34 county shall comply with the semiannual reporting provisions of  
35 this section.

36 (l) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2015, and,  
37 as of January 1, 2016, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,  
38 that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2016, deletes or  
39 extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

1 SEC. 4. Section 11450 is added to the Welfare and Institutions  
2 Code, to read:

3 11450. (a) (1) (A) Aid shall be paid for each needy family,  
4 which shall include all eligible brothers and sisters of each eligible  
5 applicant or recipient child and the parents of the children, but  
6 shall not include unborn children, or recipients of aid under Chapter  
7 3 (commencing with Section 12000), qualified for aid under this  
8 chapter. In determining the amount of aid paid, and notwithstanding  
9 the minimum basic standards of adequate care specified in Section  
10 11452, the family's income, exclusive of any amounts considered  
11 exempt as income or paid pursuant to subdivision (e) or Section  
12 11453.1, determined for the prospective semiannual period  
13 pursuant to Sections 11265.1, 11265.2, and 11265.3, and then  
14 calculated pursuant to Section 11451.5, shall be deducted from  
15 the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for  
16 cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph  
17 (2). In no case shall the amount of aid paid for each month exceed  
18 the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for  
19 cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph  
20 (2), plus any special needs, as specified in subdivisions (c), (e),  
21 and (f):

Number of eligible needy persons in the same home	Maximum aid
1.....	\$ 326
2.....	535
3.....	663
4.....	788
5.....	899
6.....	1,010
7.....	1,109
8.....	1,209
9.....	1,306
10 or more.....	1,403

37  
38 (B) If, when, and during those times that the United States  
39 government increases or decreases its contributions in assistance  
40 of needy children in this state above or below the amount paid on

1 July 1, 1972, the amounts specified in the above table shall be  
2 increased or decreased by an amount equal to that increase or  
3 decrease by the United States government, provided that no  
4 increase or decrease shall be subject to subsequent adjustment  
5 pursuant to Section 11453.

6 (2) The sums specified in paragraph (1) shall not be adjusted  
7 for cost of living for the 1990–91, 1991–92, 1992–93, 1993–94,  
8 1994–95, 1995–96, 1996–97, and 1997–98 fiscal years, and through  
9 October 31, 1998, nor shall that amount be included in the base  
10 for calculating any cost-of-living increases for any fiscal year  
11 thereafter. Elimination of the cost-of-living adjustment pursuant  
12 to this paragraph shall satisfy the requirements of Section 11453.05,  
13 and no further reduction shall be made pursuant to that section.

14 (b) (1) When the family does not include a needy child qualified  
15 for aid under this chapter, aid shall be paid to a pregnant child who  
16 is 18 years of age or younger at any time after verification of  
17 pregnancy, in the amount that would otherwise be paid to one  
18 person, as specified in subdivision (a), if the ~~child~~, *child* and her  
19 child, if born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter.  
20 Verification of pregnancy shall be required as a condition of  
21 eligibility for aid under this subdivision.

22 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the family does not  
23 include a needy child qualified for aid under this chapter, aid shall  
24 be paid to a pregnant woman for the month in which the birth is  
25 anticipated and for the six-month period immediately prior to the  
26 month in which the birth is anticipated, in the amount that would  
27 otherwise be paid to one person, as specified in subdivision (a), if  
28 the woman and child, if born, would have qualified for aid under  
29 this chapter. Verification of pregnancy shall be required as a  
30 condition of eligibility for aid under this subdivision.

31 (3) Paragraph (1) shall apply only when the Cal-Learn Program  
32 is operative.

33 (c) The amount of forty-seven dollars (\$47) per month shall be  
34 paid to pregnant ~~mothers~~ *women* qualified for aid under subdivision  
35 (a) or (b) to meet special needs resulting from pregnancy if the  
36 ~~mother~~, *woman* and child, if born, would have qualified for aid  
37 under this chapter. County welfare departments shall refer all  
38 recipients of aid under this subdivision to a local provider of the  
39 Women, ~~Infants~~ *Infants*, and Children program. If that payment  
40 to pregnant ~~mothers~~ *women* qualified for aid under subdivision (a)

1 is considered income under federal law in the first five months of  
2 pregnancy, payments under this subdivision shall not apply to  
3 persons eligible under subdivision (a), except for the month in  
4 which birth is anticipated and for the three-month period  
5 immediately prior to the month in which delivery is anticipated,  
6 if the ~~mother,~~ *woman* and the child, if born, would have qualified  
7 for aid under this chapter.

8 (d) For children receiving AFDC-FC under this chapter, there  
9 shall be paid, exclusive of any amount considered exempt as  
10 income, an amount of aid each month ~~which,~~ *that*, when added to  
11 the child's income, is equal to the rate specified in Section 11460,  
12 11461, 11462, 11462.1, or 11463. In addition, the child shall be  
13 eligible for special needs, as specified in departmental regulations.

14 (e) In addition to the amounts payable under subdivision (a)  
15 and Section 11453.1, a family shall be entitled to receive an  
16 allowance for recurring special needs not common to a majority  
17 of recipients. These recurring special needs shall include, but not  
18 be limited to, special diets upon the recommendation of a physician  
19 for circumstances other than pregnancy, and unusual costs of  
20 transportation, laundry, housekeeping services, telephone, and  
21 utilities. The recurring special needs allowance for each family  
22 per month shall not exceed that amount resulting from multiplying  
23 the sum of ten dollars (\$10) by the number of recipients in the  
24 family who are eligible for assistance.

25 (f) After a family has used all available liquid resources, both  
26 exempt and nonexempt, in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100),  
27 with the exception of funds deposited in a restricted account  
28 described in subdivision (a) of Section 11155.2, the family shall  
29 also be entitled to receive an allowance for nonrecurring special  
30 needs.

31 (1) An allowance for nonrecurring special needs shall be granted  
32 for replacement of clothing and household equipment and for  
33 emergency housing needs other than those needs addressed by  
34 paragraph (2). These needs shall be caused by sudden and unusual  
35 circumstances beyond the control of the needy family. The  
36 department shall establish the allowance for each of the  
37 nonrecurring special ~~need~~ *needs* items. The sum of all nonrecurring  
38 special needs provided by this subdivision shall not exceed six  
39 hundred dollars (\$600) per event.

1 (2) (A) Homeless assistance is available to a homeless family  
2 seeking shelter when the family is eligible for aid under this  
3 chapter. Homeless assistance for temporary shelter is also available  
4 to homeless families—~~which~~ *that* are apparently eligible for aid  
5 under this chapter. Apparent eligibility exists when evidence  
6 presented by the applicant, or—~~which~~ *that* is otherwise available to  
7 the county welfare department, and the information provided on  
8 the application documents indicate that there would be eligibility  
9 for aid under this chapter if the evidence and information were  
10 verified. However, an alien applicant who does not provide  
11 verification of his or her eligible alien status, or a woman with no  
12 eligible children who does not provide medical verification of  
13 pregnancy, is not apparently eligible for purposes of this section.

14 (B) A family is considered homeless, for the purpose of this  
15 section, when the family lacks a fixed and regular nighttime  
16 residence; or the family has a primary nighttime residence that is  
17 a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to  
18 provide temporary living accommodations; or the family is residing  
19 in a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as,  
20 a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. A family is  
21 also considered homeless for the purpose of this section if the  
22 family has received a notice to pay rent or quit. The family shall  
23 demonstrate that the eviction is the result of a verified financial  
24 hardship as a result of extraordinary circumstances beyond their  
25 control, and not other lease or rental violations, and that the family  
26 is experiencing a financial crisis that could result in homelessness  
27 if preventative assistance is not provided.

28 (A) (i) A nonrecurring special—~~need~~ *needs benefit* of sixty-five  
29 dollars (\$65) a day shall be available to families of up to four  
30 members for the costs of temporary shelter, subject to the  
31 requirements of this paragraph. The fifth and additional members  
32 of the family shall each receive fifteen dollars (\$15) per day, up  
33 to a daily maximum of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125).  
34 County welfare departments may increase the daily amount  
35 available for temporary shelter as necessary to secure the additional  
36 bedspace needed by the family.

37 (ii) This special—~~need~~ *needs benefit* shall be granted or denied  
38 immediately upon the family's application for homeless assistance,  
39 and benefits shall be available for up to three working days. The  
40 county welfare department shall verify the family's homelessness

1 within the first three working days and if the family meets the  
2 criteria of questionable homelessness established by the  
3 department, the county welfare department shall refer the family  
4 to its early fraud prevention and detection unit, if the county has  
5 such a unit, for assistance in the verification of homelessness within  
6 this period.

7 (iii) After homelessness has been verified, the three-day limit  
8 shall be extended for a period of time which, when added to the  
9 initial benefits provided, does not exceed a total of 16 calendar  
10 days. This extension of benefits shall be done in increments of one  
11 week and shall be based upon searching for permanent housing  
12 which shall be documented on a housing search ~~form~~; *form*, good  
13 ~~cause~~; *cause*, or other circumstances defined by the department.  
14 Documentation of a housing search shall be required for the initial  
15 extension of benefits beyond the three-day limit and on a weekly  
16 basis thereafter as long as the family is receiving temporary shelter  
17 benefits. Good cause shall include, but is not limited to, situations  
18 in which the county welfare department has determined that the  
19 family, to the extent it is capable, has made a good faith but  
20 unsuccessful effort to secure permanent housing while receiving  
21 temporary shelter benefits.

22 (B) (i) A nonrecurring special ~~need~~ *needs benefit* for permanent  
23 housing assistance is available to pay for last month's rent and  
24 security deposits when these payments are reasonable conditions  
25 of securing a residence, or to pay for up to two months of rent  
26 arrearages, when these payments are a reasonable condition of  
27 preventing eviction.

28 (ii) The last month's rent or monthly arrearage portion of the  
29 payment (I) shall not exceed 80 percent of the family's total  
30 monthly household income without the value of CalFresh benefits  
31 or special needs *benefit* for a family of that size and (II) shall only  
32 be made to families that have found permanent housing costing  
33 no more than 80 percent of the family's total monthly household  
34 income without the value of CalFresh benefits or special needs  
35 *benefit* for a family of that size.

36 (iii) However, if the county welfare department determines that  
37 a family intends to reside with individuals who will be sharing  
38 housing costs, the county welfare department shall, in appropriate  
39 circumstances, set aside the condition specified in subclause (II)  
40 ~~of the preceding paragraph~~. *clause (ii)*.

1 (C) The nonrecurring special ~~need~~ *needs benefit* for permanent  
2 housing assistance is also available to cover the standard costs of  
3 deposits for utilities which are necessary for the health and safety  
4 of the family.

5 (D) A payment for or denial of permanent housing assistance  
6 shall be issued no later than one working day from the time that a  
7 family presents evidence of the availability of permanent housing.  
8 If an applicant family provides evidence of the availability of  
9 permanent housing before the county welfare department has  
10 established eligibility for aid under this chapter, the county welfare  
11 department shall complete the eligibility determination so that the  
12 denial of or payment for permanent housing assistance is issued  
13 within one working day from the submission of evidence of the  
14 availability of permanent housing, unless the family has failed to  
15 provide all of the verification necessary to establish eligibility for  
16 aid under this chapter.

17 (E) (i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii), eligibility  
18 for the temporary shelter assistance and the permanent housing  
19 assistance pursuant to this paragraph shall be limited to one period  
20 of up to 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance and  
21 one payment of permanent assistance. Any family that includes a  
22 parent or nonparent caretaker relative living in the home who has  
23 previously received temporary or permanent homeless assistance  
24 at any time on behalf of an eligible child shall not be eligible for  
25 further homeless assistance. Any person who applies for homeless  
26 assistance benefits shall be informed that the temporary shelter  
27 benefit of up to 16 consecutive days is available only once in a  
28 lifetime, with certain exceptions, and that a break in the consecutive  
29 use of the benefit constitutes permanent exhaustion of the  
30 temporary benefit.

31 (ii) A family that becomes homeless as a direct and primary  
32 result of a state or federally declared natural disaster shall be  
33 eligible for temporary and permanent homeless assistance.

34 (iii) A family shall be eligible for temporary and permanent  
35 homeless assistance when homelessness is a direct result of  
36 domestic violence by a spouse, partner, or roommate; physical or  
37 mental illness that is medically verified that shall not include a  
38 diagnosis of alcoholism, drug addiction, or psychological stress;  
39 or, the uninhabitability of the former residence caused by sudden  
40 and unusual circumstances beyond the control of the family

1 including natural catastrophe, fire, or condemnation. These  
2 circumstances shall be verified by a third-party governmental or  
3 private health and human services agency, except that domestic  
4 violence may also be verified by a sworn statement by the victim,  
5 as provided under Section 11495.25. Homeless assistance payments  
6 based on these specific circumstances may not be received more  
7 often than once in any 12-month period. In addition, if the domestic  
8 violence is verified by a sworn statement by the victim, the  
9 homeless assistance payments shall be limited to two periods of  
10 not more than 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance  
11 and two payments of permanent assistance. A county may require  
12 that a recipient of homeless assistance benefits who qualifies under  
13 this paragraph for a second time in a 24-month period participate  
14 in a homelessness avoidance case plan as a condition of eligibility  
15 for homeless assistance benefits. The county welfare department  
16 shall immediately inform recipients who verify domestic violence  
17 by a sworn statement pursuant to clause (iii) of the availability of  
18 domestic violence counseling and services, and refer those  
19 recipients to services upon request.

20 (iv) If a county requires a recipient who verifies domestic  
21 violence by a sworn statement to participate in a homelessness  
22 avoidance case plan pursuant to clause (iii), the plan shall include  
23 the provision of domestic violence services, if appropriate.

24 (v) If a recipient seeking homeless assistance based on domestic  
25 violence pursuant to clause (iii) has previously received homeless  
26 avoidance services based on domestic violence, the county shall  
27 review whether services were offered to the recipient and consider  
28 what additional services would assist the recipient in leaving the  
29 domestic violence situation.

30 (vi) The county welfare department shall report *necessary data*  
31 to the department through a statewide homeless assistance payment  
32 indicator system, ~~necessary data~~, as requested by the department,  
33 regarding all recipients of aid under this paragraph.

34 (F) The county welfare departments, and all other entities  
35 participating in the costs of the CalWORKs program, have the  
36 right in their share to any refunds resulting from payment of the  
37 permanent housing. However, if an emergency requires the family  
38 to move within the 12-month period specified in subparagraph  
39 (E), the family shall be allowed to use any refunds received from  
40 its deposits to meet the costs of moving to another residence.

1 (G) Payments to providers for temporary shelter and permanent  
2 housing and utilities shall be made on behalf of families requesting  
3 these payments.

4 (H) The daily amount for the temporary shelter ~~special-need~~  
5 *needs benefit* for homeless assistance may be increased if  
6 authorized by the current year's Budget Act by specifying a  
7 different daily allowance and appropriating the funds therefor.

8 (I) No payment shall be made pursuant to this paragraph unless  
9 the provider of housing is a commercial establishment, shelter, or  
10 person in the business of renting properties who has a history of  
11 renting properties.

12 (g) The department shall establish rules and regulations ensuring  
13 the uniform *statewide* application ~~statewide~~ of this section.

14 (h) The department shall notify all applicants and recipients of  
15 aid through the standardized application form that these benefits  
16 are available and shall provide an opportunity for recipients to  
17 apply for the funds quickly and efficiently.

18 (i) (A) Except for the purposes of Section 15200, the amounts  
19 payable to recipients pursuant to Section 11453.1 shall not  
20 constitute part of the payment schedule set forth in subdivision  
21 (a).

22 (B) The amounts payable to recipients pursuant to Section  
23 11453.1 shall not constitute income to recipients of aid under this  
24 section.

25 (j) For children receiving Kin-GAP pursuant to Article 4.5  
26 (commencing with Section 11360) or Article 4.7 (commencing  
27 with Section 11385) there shall be paid, exclusive of any amount  
28 considered exempt as income, an amount of aid each month, which,  
29 when added to the child's income, is equal to the rate specified in  
30 Sections 11364 and 11387.

31 (k) (1) A county shall implement the semiannual reporting  
32 requirements in accordance with Chapter 501 of the Statutes of  
33 2011 no later than October 1, 2013.

34 (2) Upon *completion of the* implementation described in  
35 paragraph (1), each county shall provide a certificate to the director  
36 certifying that semiannual reporting has been implemented in the  
37 county.

38 (3) Upon filing the certificate described in paragraph (2), a  
39 county shall comply with the semiannual reporting provisions of  
40 this section.

1 (l) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2015.

2 *SEC. 5. Notwithstanding the rulemaking provisions of the*  
3 *Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with*  
4 *Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government*  
5 *Code), the department may implement, interpret, or make specific*  
6 *the provisions of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 11450*  
7 *of the Welfare and Institutions Code, as added by this act, by means*  
8 *of all-county letters or similar instructions from the department*  
9 *until regulations are adopted.*

10 ~~SEC. 5.~~

11 *SEC. 6.* No appropriation pursuant to Section 15200 of the  
12 Welfare and Institutions Code shall be made for purposes of this  
13 act.

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