

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2115**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bradford**

February 20, 2014

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An act to amend Section 18911 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to CalFresh.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2115, as introduced, Bradford. CalFresh: school meals.

Existing law provides for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), known in California as CalFresh, under which supplemental nutrition assistance benefits allocated to the state by the federal government are distributed to eligible individuals by each county. Existing federal law requires that a child receiving benefits under SNAP be certified as eligible for free lunches and free breakfasts without further application. Existing law requires a county welfare department to compile a list of emergency food providers and make that list available upon request.

This bill would additionally require a county welfare department to compile a list of child feeding and summer feeding programs. The bill would also require a county human services agency to provide an applicant household that has children with information about how to enroll the children in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs while the CalFresh application is pending and to inform the household that if the household is certified for CalFresh, all children in the household are directly certified for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs without further application.

By increasing the duties of county welfare departments, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 18911 of the Welfare and Institutions  
2 Code is amended to read:  
3 18911. (a) An application and an authorization for participation  
4 in CalFresh shall be processed within a period of not more than  
5 30 days from the date of application.  
6 (b) The department shall develop written information that  
7 describes the eligibility and verification requirements for expedited  
8 service, the process for applying for those benefits, and the  
9 availability of assistance in filling out the forms and gathering  
10 needed documentation.  
11 (c) ~~Each~~A county welfare department shall make the material  
12 developed pursuant to subdivision (b) available to ~~each~~ an applicant  
13 at the time the applicant initially seeks CalFresh benefits.  
14 (d) ~~Each~~A county welfare department shall, upon request, make  
15 available the information developed pursuant to subdivision (b)  
16 to community action agencies, legal services offices, emergency  
17 food programs, and other programs.  
18 (e) ~~Each~~A county ~~welfare department~~ *human service agency*  
19 shall compile a list of emergency food providers, *including local*  
20 *child feeding and summer feeding programs*, in the area served by  
21 the local CalFresh office. The list shall be updated, based on  
22 information from the food providers, *cities, and school districts*.  
23 The list shall be made available ~~upon request, and, where needed,~~  
24 ~~may be used to refer individuals to emergency food sites that may~~  
25 ~~be able to provide assistance.~~ *to households applying for CalFresh.*  
26 *A county welfare department shall provide an applicant household*  
27 *that has children with information about how to enroll the children*  
28 *in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs*

1 *while the CalFresh application is pending and shall inform the*  
2 *household that if the household is certified for CalFresh, all*  
3 *children in the household are directly certified for the National*  
4 *School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs without further*  
5 *application.*

6 (f) ~~Each~~A county welfare department shall make available to  
7 CalFresh applicants, upon request, nonpromotional information  
8 that contains addresses and phone numbers of local legal services  
9 and welfare rights organizations.

10 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
11 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
12 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
13 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
14 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.