

**Introduced by Committee on Human Services (Senators Yee
(Chair), Berryhill, Emmerson, Evans, Liu, and Wright)**February 22, 2013

An act to amend Sections 18960, 18961, and 18962 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to child abuse prevention.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 602, as introduced, Committee on Human Services. Child abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment projects.

Existing law allows the Office of Child Abuse Prevention to fund, through allocations provided to local counties, child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs. Existing law provides the criteria under which a county selects agency projects and services to be funded under these provisions, including that priority shall be given to private, nonprofit agencies and that training and technical assistance shall be provided by private, nonprofit agencies, as specified. Existing law requires a county that has established a multidisciplinary council to utilize that council to provide recommendations to the board of supervisors for the funding processes and priorities.

This bill would provide that a county welfare department may directly perform services funded under these provisions and priority shall be given instead to direct prevention and early intervention programs that have demonstrated effectiveness in abuse and neglect prevention and early intervention. This bill would remove required training and technical assistance by private, nonprofit agencies as a selection criteria. This bill would require counties to utilize specified processes to include stakeholder input and provide recommendations to the board of supervisors for the funding processes and priorities.

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. Section 18960 of the Welfare and Institutions
 2 Code is amended to read:
 3 18960. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that child abuse
 4 and neglect prevention and *early* intervention programs be
 5 encouraged by the funding of *public and other* agencies addressing
 6 needs of children at high risk of abuse or neglect and their families.
 7 (b) All funds expended by a county for activities under this
 8 section shall be expended by the county in a manner that will
 9 maximize eligibility for federal financial participation.
 10 (c) Priority shall be given to ~~prevention programs through~~
 11 ~~nonprofit agencies, including, where appropriate, direct prevention~~
 12 *and early intervention* programs that identify and provide services
 13 to isolated families, particularly those with children five years of
 14 age or younger, high quality home visiting programs based on
 15 research-based models of best practice, and services to child
 16 victims of crime.
 17 SEC. 2. Section 18961 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is
 18 amended to read:
 19 18961. (a) ~~Projects and~~ *In addition to funding nonprofit*
 20 *agencies, a county welfare department may also directly perform*
 21 *child abuse and neglect prevention and early intervention services*
 22 *funded under this article. Direct services provided to children and*
 23 *families* funded pursuant to this article shall be selected using the
 24 following criteria:
 25 (1) Priority shall be given to ~~private, nonprofit agencies with~~
 26 ~~programs that serve the needs of children at risk of abuse or neglect~~
 27 ~~and services and programs~~ that have demonstrated effectiveness
 28 in *abuse and neglect prevention or and early* intervention,
 29 *particularly services to isolated families, families with children*
 30 *five years of age or younger, high quality home visiting programs*
 31 *based on research-based models of best practice, and services to*
 32 *child victims of crime.*
 33 (2) ~~Agencies~~ *Nonprofit agencies* shall be eligible for funding
 34 provided that evidence is submitted that the proposed services are
 35 not duplicated in the community, are based on needs of children

1 at risk, and are supported by a local public agency, including, but
2 not limited to, one of the following:

- 3 (A) The county welfare department.
- 4 (B) A public law enforcement agency.
- 5 (C) The county probation department.
- 6 (D) The county board of supervisors.
- 7 (E) The county public health department.
- 8 (F) The county mental health department.
- 9 (G) The school district.

10 (3) Services provided shall be culturally and linguistically
11 appropriate to the populations served.

12 (4) ~~Services~~ *Direct services provided to children and families*
13 may include, but need not be limited to, day care, respite services,
14 transportation, mental health services, services provided through
15 home visiting programs, parent education and support programs,
16 domestic violence services, disability services, early developmental
17 screening and assessment, ~~and counseling services services, and~~
18 *multidisciplinary team services.*

19 (5) ~~Applicant~~ *Nonprofit applicant* agencies shall demonstrate
20 the existence of a 10 percent cash or in-kind match that will support
21 the goals of child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention.

22 (6) Funding shall be used to supplement, but not supplant, child
23 welfare services authorized pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing
24 with Section 16500) of Part 4.

25 (7) ~~Training and technical assistance shall be provided by~~
26 ~~private, nonprofit agencies to those agencies funded to provide~~
27 ~~services under this article. Training and technical assistance shall~~
28 ~~encompass all of the following:~~

29 (A) ~~Multidisciplinary approaches to child abuse prevention,~~
30 ~~intervention, and treatment.~~

31 (B) ~~Facilitation of local services networks.~~

32 (C) ~~Establishment and support of child abuse councils.~~

33 (D) ~~Dissemination of information addressing issues of child~~
34 ~~abuse among multicultural and special needs populations.~~

35 (8)

36 (7) Priority for services shall be given to children who are at
37 high risk, including children who are being served by the county
38 welfare departments for being abused and neglected and other
39 children who are referred for services by legal, medical, or social
40 services agencies.

1 (9)
2 (8) Service to minority populations shall be reflected in the
3 funding of projects *and services*.

4 (10)
5 (9) Projects and services shall clearly be related to the needs of
6 children, especially those 14 years of age and under.

7 ~~(b) In a county that has established a multidisciplinary council,~~
8 ~~the council shall be utilized~~ *Counties shall utilize the county*
9 *self-assessment and system improvement plan processes established*
10 *under Section 10601.2 of the Welfare and Institutions Code to*
11 *include stakeholder input and to provide recommendations to the*
12 *board of supervisors for the funding processes and priorities.*

13 (c) Each county shall monitor the projects and services it funds.

14 (d) Beginning in the 2011–12 fiscal year, and for each fiscal
15 year thereafter, funding and expenditures for programs and
16 activities under this section shall be in accordance with the
17 requirements provided in Sections 30025 and 30026.5 of the
18 Government Code.

19 SEC. 3. Section 18962 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is
20 amended to read:

21 18962. (a) If a board of supervisors chooses not to ~~contract or~~
22 ~~subcontract~~ *utilize these funds* for the provision of *direct prevention*
23 *and early intervention services provided to children and families,*
24 the funds allocated for that county shall revert to the State
25 Children’s Trust Fund established under Section 18969 and shall
26 be administered in accordance with the provisions of law relating
27 to the fund.

28 (b) The county child welfare agency shall provide to the Office
29 of Child Abuse Prevention, no later than October 1 of each year,
30 an annual expenditure report to include funds expended,
31 populations served, and other information deemed necessary based
32 on a process to be developed by the department, in consultation
33 with counties.