

2026 Proposed Mental Health-Related Bills

Report Generated Wednesday, April 1, 2026

For more information, you may wish to access the [California Legislative Information](#) website.

ATHLETICS

[AB 1665 \(Pacheco, D\)](#) School athletics: coaches: pupil mental health training.

Current Text: 03/18/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/18/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the governing board of a school district to have general control of, and be responsible for, all aspects of the interscholastic athletic policies, programs, and activities in its school district, as provided, and requires the governing board of a school district to ensure that all interscholastic policies, programs, and activities in the school district comply with state and federal law. Existing law authorizes the governing board of a school district to enter into associations or consortia with other governing boards for purposes of governing regional or statewide interscholastic athletics, as provided. Existing law describes the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) as a voluntary organization that consists of school and school-related personnel with responsibility for administering interscholastic athletic activities in secondary schools and states the intent of the Legislature that the CIF, in consultation with the State Department of Education, implement specified policies relating to interscholastic athletics. Existing law, the 1998 California High School Coaching Education and Training Program, declares the intent of the Legislature to establish a California High School Coaching Education and Training Program, to be administered by school districts with an emphasis on specific components, including, among other components, sports psychology. This bill would add a component on pupil mental health training, as specified, to the list of components to be emphasized by the 1998 California High School Coaching Education and Training Program. The bill, commencing with the 2027–28 school year, would require a person who serves as a coach in an interscholastic athletic program at a high school, including a private school, that is a member of the California Interscholastic Federation to complete annual training in pupil mental health, as provided. (Based on 03/18/2026 text)

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

[AB 1766 \(Krell, D\)](#) Health curriculum framework: human trafficking and online safety.

Current Text: 02/09/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: The California Healthy Youth Act requires school districts, defined to include county boards of education, county superintendents of schools, the California School for the Deaf, the California School for the Blind, and charter schools, to ensure that all pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, receive comprehensive sexual health education and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention education from instructors trained in the appropriate courses, at least once in junior high or middle school and at least once in high school. Under the act, this instruction includes, among other things, information about human trafficking. Current law requires school districts, as part of the requirement of the California Healthy Youth Act that pupils receive comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education from instructors trained in the appropriate courses, to ensure the periodic conduction of continuation training to enable school district personnel to learn about new developments in the understanding of, among other things, human trafficking, and to receive instruction on current prevention resources, as provided. This bill would require the Instructional Quality Commission, when the health curriculum framework is next revised on or after January 1, 2027, to consider providing for inclusion in that framework recommendations related to school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools providing annual, developmentally appropriate lessons for each grade served by the local educational agency about how to prevent human trafficking, how to prevent exploitation for labor and

services, how to stay safe from sexually exploitative materials and deepfakes online, foundational digital citizenship skills, and skills-based content that builds protective factors, as provided. The bill would require the recommended lessons to follow a cumulative, age-appropriate progression from kindergarten to grades 1 to 12, inclusive, as provided. (Based on 02/09/2026 text)

[AB 1792](#) ([Rodriguez, Michelle, D](#)) **Pupil instruction: health framework: sexual health.**

Current Text: 02/10/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Existing law establishes the Instructional Quality Commission and requires the commission to, among other things, recommend curriculum frameworks to the State Board of Education. This bill would require the commission, during the next revision of the publication “Health Framework for California Public Schools,” to consider including, and recommending for adoption by the state board, specific content related to sexual health instruction to educate pupils about dating abuse and digital violence, as described. (Based on 02/10/2026 text)

[AB 1943](#) ([Gipson, D](#)) **Pupil safety: notifications: firearms.**

Current Text: 03/23/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/23/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the State Department of Education, on or before July 1, 2023, to develop, and subsequently update as provided, in consultation with the Department of Justice, and provide to school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools, and, upon request, to provide to private schools, model language for the notice regarding those child access prevention and safe storage of firearms laws. This bill would revise and recast those requirements by, among other things, (A) instead requiring those local educational agencies to inform parents or guardians of each enrolled pupil of the importance of practicing secure firearm storage for all homes in which firearms are present through a notice entitled “Secure Firearm Storage Notification“ that contains, among other things, a description of the risks of children accessing unsecured firearms in the home and California’s child access prevention laws and laws relating to the safe storage of firearms, (B) requiring the department, commencing July 1, 2027, to post the model language for notice on its internet website, as specified, (C) requiring the department, on or before July 1, 2027, to provide formatting and content options for local educational agencies to post the notice on their respective internet websites and for posting other relevant information and resources about secure firearm storage using other internet-based communication options, and (D) requiring the department to encourage each local educational agency to adopt a policy and practice of providing the notice to parents, guardians, and caregivers when otherwise providing notice to parents, guardians, or caregivers of disciplinary actions or supports given related to threats against other pupils or threats of self-harm. The bill would make conforming changes. (Based on 03/23/2026 text)

[AB 2071](#) ([Hoover, R](#)) **Pupil instruction: digital wellness.**

Current Text: 02/18/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: If a school district, county office of education, state special school, or charter school offers one or more courses in health education to pupils in middle school or high school, current law requires that the course or courses include instruction in mental health that meet certain requirements, as provided. Current law requires the State Department of Education, on or before January 1, 2024, to develop a plan to expand mental health instruction in California public schools. This bill would require the above-described course or courses in health education to also include instruction in digital wellness, as defined, that meets certain requirements, as provided. The bill would require the department, on or before January 1, 2028, to develop a plan to expand digital wellness instruction in California public schools, as provided. (Based on 02/18/2026 text)

[AB 2158](#) (Hoover, R) Pupil instruction: outdoor learning.

Current Text: 02/18/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Current law establishes a system of public elementary and secondary education in this state. Under this system, local educational agencies throughout the state provide instruction to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, and current law establishes courses of study for those pupils. This bill would encourage school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to integrate outdoor learning into standards-aligned instruction across subject areas, as provided. (Based on 02/18/2026 text)

[SB 1133](#) (Strickland, R) Pupil instruction: preventative health instruction.

Current Text: 03/23/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/23/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes the Instructional Quality Commission and requires the commission to, among other things, develop, and the State Board of Education to adopt, modify, or revise, model curriculum frameworks, as specified. Existing law requires, when the Health Education Framework for California Public Schools is next revised on or after January 1, 2025, the commission to consider including information on evidence-based schoolwide programs to support pupils in developing skills in mindfulness, distress tolerance, interpersonal effectiveness, and emotional regulation. This bill, the Ready to Learn, Ready for Health Act, would require, when the Health Education Framework for California Public Schools is next revised on or after January 1, 2027, the commission to consider including information on evidence-based preventative health instruction, including information on nutrition, food literacy, sleep, movement, stress management, and digital balance in an integrated manner that discusses these key health factors and the interrelationship and balance between them, as provided. (Based on 03/23/2026 text)

EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY / ONLINE EDUCATION

[AB 2426](#) (Wallis, R) Online platforms: educational children's content.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes the Department of Consumer Affairs to, among other things, protect consumer interests and regulate specified businesses. Existing law requires a business that provides an online service, product, or feature likely to be accessed by children to comply with specified requirements, including configuring all default privacy settings provided to children to settings that offer a high level of privacy. Existing law prohibits an operator of an internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application directed to minors from marketing or advertising specified products or services to a minor. This bill would enact the California Children's Digital Educational Content Act of 2026, which would require a covered platform, as defined, to establish and maintain a walled garden. The bill would define a walled garden as a clearly designated and easily accessible section of a platform that is dedicated exclusively to educational children's content, as defined. The bill would require a walled garden to meet certain requirements, including that it be free from targeted advertising and be accessible to minors without an account. The bill would authorize the department to adopt regulations to implement these provisions. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

FACILITIES

[AB 2242](#) (Davies, R) Pupil safety: sextortion informational poster.

Current Text: 03/26/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/26/2026

Summary: Existing law requires each educational institution in the state to have a written policy on sexual harassment and to display that policy in a prominent location, as defined, in the main administrative building or other area of the educational institution's campus or schoolsite. Existing law

requires each schoolsite in a school district, county office of education, or charter school, serving pupils in any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, to create a poster that notifies pupils of that policy and to prominently and conspicuously display the poster in each bathroom and locker room at the schoolsite, as specified. This bill would require each school district, county office of education, and charter school maintaining any combination of grades 7 to 12, inclusive, on or before the start of the 2027–28 school year, to display, at each schoolsite, as defined, in at least one men’s restroom, one women’s restroom, and one all-gender restroom used by pupils a legible poster printed in both English and a primary language other than English spoken by at least 15% of pupils enrolled at the schoolsite, that contains specified information relating to sextortion, including, among other information, an age-appropriate description of sextortion, as defined, and contact information for local, state, and federal law enforcement for purposes of reporting or seeking assistance relating to sextortion. (Based on 03/26/2026 text)

FINANCE

[AB 1908](#) (McKinnor, D) Civil actions: victims’ compensation funding: validating proceedings.

Current Text: 03/16/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/16/2026

Summary: Under existing law, bonds, warrants, contracts, obligations, and evidences of indebtedness of a public agency, for the purpose of validating proceedings, are deemed to be in existence upon their authorization, as specified. This bill would provide that the obligations described above include a victims’ compensation fund, established to address payments to settle or pay awards to victims of childhood sexual assault, as specified, which is authorized as of the date the establishment of such a fund via adoption of a resolution or ordinance by a county board of supervisors. The bill would provide that, for purposes of determining the validity of refunding bonds to refund a tort action judgment entered against a public agency, as specified, indebtedness is deemed to be in existence on the date of adoption by the governing body of the public agency of a resolution ordinance, as specified. (Based on 03/16/2026 text)

FOSTER CARE / HOMELESSNESS

[AB 673](#) (Jackson, D) Unaccompanied homeless pupils: Unaccompanied Youth Support Grant Program.

Current Text: 01/12/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 01/12/2026

Summary: Would require the State Department of Education, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services, to administer competitive grants as part of a pilot program, to be known as the Unaccompanied Youth Support Grant Program, for school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to provide supports necessary to improve school attendance, pupil engagement, pupil graduation rates, and pupil wellbeing for unaccompanied youth, as defined, who are 16 and 17 years of age, including connecting youth with resources to find stable housing. The bill would require 5-year grants to be awarded to local educational agencies to support unaccompanied youth, and would require grant funds to be used for, among other things, referrals to existing social services support systems, and providing basic needs supports and educational support services, as specified. The bill would require funding preference under the program to be given to local educational agencies that have significant experience working with unaccompanied youth and existing partnerships with certain entities, as specified. The bill would require local educational agencies applying for grant funds under the program to submit an application that includes, among other things, a detailed plan describing how grant funds will be used to identify eligible pupils, the types of supports to be provided based on the eligible uses of grant funds, and the methods and metrics the local educational agency will use to measure progress towards program goals. The bill would require local educational agencies awarded grant funds under the program to submit annual reports to the department that include, among other things, a description of the expenditure of funds and the number and characteristics of unaccompanied youth served. (Based on 01/12/2026 text)

[AB 1899](#) (Caloza, D) Office of Youth Homelessness Prevention.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: The Governor's Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 2025, beginning July 1, 2026, eliminates the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency and instead establishes the Business and Consumer Services Agency and the California Housing and Homelessness Agency. Existing law requires the Interagency Council on Homelessness to set and measure progress toward goals to prevent and end homelessness among youth in California by setting specific, measurable goals aimed at preventing and ending homelessness among youth in the state, as provided. This bill would establish within the California Housing and Homelessness Agency the Office of Youth Homelessness Prevention (office), with the mission of reducing youth homelessness in the state to functional zero, defined as the condition in which the number of youth experiencing homelessness does not exceed the capacity to provide youth with permanent housing. The bill would impose prescribed responsibilities on the office, including, by September 15, 2027, developing and overseeing the implementation of a comprehensive framework to reduce youth homelessness to functional zero containing specific and measurable goals, as provided. The bill would require the office, on or before December 15, 2027, to create and post on its internet website a publicly accessible dashboard tracking the office's progress toward these goals. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

[AB 2283](#) (Gonzalez, Jeff, R) State Public Guardian.

Current Text: 03/25/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/25/2026

Summary: Existing law authorizes the public guardian, a county position, to apply for appointment as guardian or conservator of the person, estate, or both, of any person domiciled in the county requiring a guardian or conservator if there is no one else who is qualified and willing to act and whose appointment would be in the best interest of the person, or if there is an imminent threat to a person's health or safety or the person's estate. The public guardian is required to apply for appointment if ordered by the court. This bill would require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, the State Department of Social Services to establish the position of the State Public Guardian to assist counties with performing their duties as a public guardian or public conservator. The bill would require the State Public Guardian to perform specified duties, including, among other things, providing guidance and technical assistance to local public guardians and public conservators to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and promoting access to training materials necessary to perform the duties of a public guardian or public conservator, including materials required for compliance with continuing education requirements. (Based on 03/25/2026 text)

[SB 1345](#) (Wahab, D) Foster children: rights of foster youth.

Current Text: 03/23/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/23/2026

Summary: Existing law provides that it is the policy of the state that all minors and nonminors in foster care have specified rights, including, among others, the right to have storage space for private use, the right to be free from unreasonable searches of personal belongings, the right to be informed of these rights in an age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate manner, and the right to receive a copy of these rights, at specified intervals. Under this bill, the foster youth would have an additional right to have their personal belongings transported during placement changes and other moves in a manner preserving the youth's property and dignity, including the use of suitcases, duffel bags, backpacks, and moving boxes rather than trash bags or other inappropriate receptacles. (Based on 03/23/2026 text)

HEALTH & NUTRITION

[AB 96 \(Jackson, D\)](#) Mental health services: peer support specialist certification.

Current Text: 01/05/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 01/05/2026

Summary: Current law establishes a schedule of benefits under the Medi-Cal program and provides for various services, including behavioral and mental health services that are rendered by Medi-Cal enrolled providers. Current law authorizes a county, or an agency representing the county, to develop a peer support specialist certification program, subject to department approval. Current law imposes specified requirements on applicants for certification as a peer support specialist, including that the applicant be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent degree. This bill would remove the requirement of possessing a high school diploma or equivalent degree from the requirements necessary for an applicant to receive certification. (Based on 01/05/2026 text)

[AB 1540 \(González, Mark, D\)](#) 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: LGBTQ+ youth.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: The Miles Hall Lifeline and Suicide Prevention Act requires, among other things, the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to verify that technology that allows for transfers between 988 centers, as well as between 988 centers and 911 public safety answering points, is available to 988 centers and 911 public safety answering points throughout the state, to appoint a 988 system director, and to verify interoperability between and across 911 and 988. Existing law establishes the 988 State Suicide and Behavioral Health Crisis Services Fund and provides that 988 surcharge revenue in the fund is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for purposes of the act. This bill would require OES to, no later than June 1, 2027, request the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to enable a press 3 function for calls originating in the State of California to allow callers to dial 988 and press “3” to be automatically routed to a specialized call center. The bill would require OES to, no later than 12 months following the approval by SAMHSA, ensure that the specified technologies are available. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

[AB 1579 \(Ramos, D\)](#) Children’s Crisis Continuum Pilot Program.

Current Text: 03/03/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/03/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the State Department of Social Services, jointly with the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), to establish the Children’s Crisis Continuum Pilot Program. Existing law requires the department, jointly with DHCS, to award grants under the pilot program and requires participating entities to develop a highly integrated continuum of care for the foster youth served in the pilot program. Under existing law, that continuum of care is required to include certain components, including, among others, a crisis residential program that is operated in accordance with all statutes and regulations governing its licensure category. This bill would authorize a participating entity that does not have a crisis residential program as a part of its continuum of care, but that has included in its continuum of care a comparable type of treatment component designed to serve children and youth experiencing the highest level of acute behavioral health needs in a residential setting, to utilize all awarded grant funds, including any funds specifically designated to fund a crisis residential program, to fund any other component of the continuum of care. (Based on 03/03/2026 text)

[AB 1851 \(Gipson, D\)](#) Pupil health: social-emotional, behavioral, and mental health supports.

Current Text: 02/11/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Current law requires the governing board of a school district to give diligent care to the health and physical development of pupils and authorizes the governing board of a school district to employ properly certified persons for this purpose. Current law requires a school of a school district or

county office of education and a charter school to notify pupils and parents or guardians of pupils no less than twice during the school year on how to initiate access to available pupil mental health services on campus or in the community, or both, as provided. This bill would require the State Department of Education to establish a statewide Tier 1 Social and Emotional Learning, behavioral health, and restorative justice education program for pupils in kindergarten and any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, as provided. The bill would require a school district, county office of education, or charter school to implement the program with guidance issued by the department and supported using funds appropriated for the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, as specified. (Based on 02/11/2026 text)

[AB 1969](#) (Bonta, D) California Coordinated Neighborhood and Community Services Grant Program.

Current Text: 03/26/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/26/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the Department of Community Services and Development to, among other things, plan and evaluate strategies for overcoming poverty in the state, mobilize resources in support of antipoverty and community services programs, and administer public and private funds designed to support antipoverty programs that are not currently administered by other departments. Existing law establishes the Cradle-to-Career Data System for the purpose of connecting individuals and organizations to trusted information and resources, as a source for actionable data and research on education, economic, and health outcomes for individuals, families, and communities, and to provide for expanded access to tools and services that support the education-to-employment pipeline, as specified. This bill, the It Takes a Village Act of 2026, upon appropriation in the annual Budget Act or another statute for these purposes, would establish the California Coordinated Neighborhood and Community Services Grant Program to be administered by the State Department of Social Services or another department within the California Health and Human Services Agency. The bill would require the department to grant awards for the 2026–27 and 2027–28 fiscal years to eligible entities that are neighborhood partnerships or regional partnerships, as those terms are defined, to reduce child poverty and advance economic mobility for children and families disproportionately affected by intergenerational poverty. The bill would require the department, in consultation with the State Department of Education, to develop an application process and would require the department to establish performance standards to measure progress on indicators and results relevant to the evaluation of the grant program. (Based on 03/26/2026 text)

[AB 2003](#) (Berman, D) Pupil health: suicide prevention.

Current Text: 03/26/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/26/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the State Department of Education to identify an evidence-based online training program that a county office of education, school district, state special school, or charter school that serves pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, can use to train school staff and pupils as part of their policy on pupil suicide prevention. Existing law requires the department, subject to an appropriation for these purposes, to provide a grant to a county office of education to acquire a training program identified by the department and disseminate that training program at no cost to specified educational entities, as specified. This bill would revise and recast these provisions by (1) deleting the requirement to provide the above-described grant, (2) deleting the requirement of the department to identify the above-described evidence-based online training program, (3) instead requiring the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission to develop an online training program to train school staff, parents, and pupils of county offices of education, school districts, state special schools, and charter schools that serve pupils in kindergarten or in any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, on pupil suicide prevention, as specified. (Based on 03/26/2026 text)

AB 2429 (Rubio, Blanca, D) Childcare: mental health consultation services.

Current Text: 03/26/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/26/2026

Summary: Under the Child Care and Development Services Act and the Early Education Act, the cost to a provider agency of providing an early childhood mental health consultation service is reimbursable if certain requirements are met, including that the consultation service uses a relationship-based model that includes specified components, including, among others, that, at least twice per program year, early care- and education setting-based mental health assessments are conducted and that there is, with the consent of parents or legal guardians, at least one screening of each enrolled child for adverse childhood experiences and screening for buffering factors. This bill would remove the requirement that the consultation service use a relationship-based model that includes those components in order to be reimbursable and instead requires that, in order to be reimbursable, the consultation service, among other things, uses a relationship-based model that includes, at least once per school or program year, in consultation with the classroom team or childcare provider, as applicable, the use of an early care and education classroom observation tool to inform the specific activities and support the consultant will provide. (Based on 03/26/2026 text)

AB 2441 (Rodriguez, Celeste, D) Community Supporting Innovation Pilot Program.

Current Text: 02/20/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Current law establishes the Office of Child Abuse Prevention in the State Department of Social Services. Current law requires the office to use certain funds to undertake specified activities, including, among other things, supporting coordination and sharing of best practices implemented by family resource centers with other agencies, when the best practices reflect strategies and outcomes that were achieved and supported by evidence-informed programs and data. This bill would require the Office of Child Abuse Prevention to establish the Community Supporting Innovation Pilot Program to assess and demonstrate the effectiveness of community-based organizations, including family resource centers, serving as resource and referral avenues and alternative support pathways for families with complex needs or multiple stressors, or who are navigating significant barriers, but whose children are not at substantial risk of suffering serious physical harm or illness. The bill would require organizations wishing to participate in the pilot program to submit an application that demonstrates that the organization meets certain criteria, including, among others things, that the organization has the commitment of at least one partnering school district, hospital, clinic, or law enforcement agency that will refer potentially eligible families to the organization. The bill would require the office to select 25 organizations to receive grants to operate community pathway teams and provide related training. The bill would require a community pathway pilot site to receive referrals of the families described above and provide assistance to referred families navigating services related to basic needs, childcare access, behavioral health coordination, financial stability, benefits continuity, and other supports that stabilize families and reduce unnecessary involvement in the child welfare system. (Based on 02/20/2026 text)

AB 2460 (Rodriguez, Celeste, D) Pupil health: mental health framework.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: Would require the State Department of Education, in consultation with the State Department of Health Care Services and appropriate stakeholders, to develop a framework to ensure that pupils have access to comprehensive mental health support within their education environment that is adaptable to local emergencies and that local educational agencies strive to promote a safe, supportive educational environment that includes an equity-centered mental health framework adaptable to locally declared emergencies in which community mental health resources, networks, and other resources are provided to pupils, as specified. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

[AB 2704 \(Addis, D\) Statewide Fee Schedule Pilot Program.](#)

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, administered by the California Health and Human Services Agency and its departments, as applicable. Under existing law, the purpose of the initiative is to transform the state's behavioral health system into an innovative ecosystem in which all children and youth 25 years of age and younger, regardless of payer, are screened, supported, and served for emerging and existing behavioral health needs. Existing law requires, as a part of the initiative, the State Department of Health Care Services to develop and maintain a school-linked statewide fee schedule for outpatient mental health or substance use disorder treatment provided to a student who is 25 years of age or younger at a schoolsite. Existing law requires providers of medically necessary schoolsite services to be reimbursed by health care service plans, insurers, and Medi-Cal managed care plans, at a minimum, at the fee schedule rate or rates, regardless of network provider status. This bill would establish the Statewide Fee Schedule Pilot Program. The bill would require the pilot lead, the Monterey County Office of Education, in coordination with the State Department of Health Care Services, to, no later than April 1, 2027, select 25 entities to participate in the pilot program and prioritize certain applicants, including, among others, applicants who will increase the number of transition-age youth receiving behavioral health services. The bill would require the pilot lead, starting no later than April 1, 2027, and ending no earlier than July 1, 2030, to provide intensive technical assistance and support to the participating entities in participating in the school-linked statewide fee schedule, including technical assistance and support with specified activities, including, among others, providing training and coaching for behavioral health service providers related to documentation of services, proper coding and noting procedures, obtaining required consents, applicable privacy laws and disclosure requirements, and referral protocols. The bill would require the pilot lead to submit a progress report by January 1, 2028, and submit a summative report by January 1, 2031, regarding the pilot program to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature. The bill would require the State Department of Education, upon appropriation and subject to the terms of the appropriation, allocate funds the pilot lead to administer the pilot program. By requiring the Monterey County Office of Education to serve as the pilot lead, this bill would impose a state-mandated local

[SB 980 \(Hurtado, D\) Access to medical records.](#)

Current Text: 03/16/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/16/2026

Summary: Existing law governs a patient's access to their health records. Existing law requires a health care provider, as defined, to provide a patient or the patient's representative with all or any part of the patient's medical records that the patient has a right to inspect, subject to the payment of clerical costs incurred in locating and making the records available, following a written request from the patient. Existing law entitles a patient, employee of a nonprofit legal services entity representing the patient, or the personal representative of a patient, to a copy, at no charge, of the relevant portion of the patient's records upon written request. Existing law also prohibits a health care provider from charging a fee to a patient for filling out forms or providing information responsive to forms that support a claim or appeal regarding eligibility for a public benefit program. Existing law makes a willful violation of these provisions by specified health care providers an infraction. This bill would additionally prohibit a health care provider from charging a fee to a patient for completing health-related forms required by an educational institution or childcare provider for participation in school, childcare, or school-sponsored activities. (Based on 03/16/2026 text)

[SB 1422 \(Durazo, D\) Medi-Cal: eligibility: immigration status.](#)

Current Text: 02/20/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Existing law establishes the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services and under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid program

provisions. Existing law sets a schedule of benefits that are covered by the Medi-Cal program. This bill would instead make an individual who is 19 years of age or older, who does not have satisfactory immigration status, eligible for the full scope of Medi-Cal benefits subject to certain limitations, such as the payment of premiums and certain dental benefits. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/20/2026 text)

PERSONNEL

[AB 277](#) ([Alanis, R](#)) Behavioral health centers, facilities, and programs: background checks.

Current Text: 01/05/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 01/05/2026

Summary: Current law generally provides requirements for the licensing of business establishments. Current law requires a business that provides services to minors, as defined, to provide written notice to the parent or guardian of a minor participating in the service offered by the business regarding the business' policies relating to criminal background checks for employees, as specified. Current law requires the Department of Justice to maintain state summary criminal history information, as defined, and to furnish this information as required by statute to specified entities, including a human resource agency or an employer. Under current law, the disclosure of state summary criminal history information to an unauthorized person is a crime. This bill would require a person who provides behavioral health treatment for a behavioral health center, facility, or program to undergo a background check, as specified. (Based on 01/05/2026 text)

[AB 1566](#) ([Jackson, D](#)) Crimes: mandated reporters: severe neglect.

Current Text: 01/12/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: The Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act makes certain persons, including teachers and social workers, mandated reporters. Under current law, mandated reporters are required to report whenever the mandated reporter, in their professional capacity or within the scope of their employment, has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. Failure by a mandated reporter to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect is a misdemeanor. Current law, for the purposes of the act, defines "severe neglect" as the negligent failure of a person having the care or custody of a child to protect the child from severe malnutrition or medically diagnosed nonorganic failure to thrive, as well as those situations of neglect where any person having the care or custody of a child willfully causes or permits the person or health of the child to be placed in a situation such that their person or health is endangered as proscribed by specified law, including the intentional failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care. This bill would recast the definition of "severe neglect" for the purposes described above. (Based on 01/12/2026 text)

[AB 1586](#) ([Ramos, D](#)) Opioid overdose reversal medication: school resource officers.

Current Text: 03/23/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/23/2026

Summary: Would enact the School Safety and Opioid Overdose Prevention Act, and commencing with the 2027–28 school year, would require a school resource officer, as defined, to (1) upon assignment to a schoolsite, and at least every 2 years thereafter, complete an opioid overdose recognition and response training, as specified, and (2) annually report to the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, among other things, the number of times the school resource officer administered an opioid antagonist while serving at a schoolsite. The bill would prohibit a school resource officer who administers an opioid antagonist while assigned to a schoolsite, and their employing or contracting entity, from being held liable in a civil action or being subject to criminal prosecution for the school resource officer's acts or omissions, unless those acts or omissions constitute gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct, as provided. (Based on 03/23/2026 text)

AB 1626 (Gabriel, D) Interscholastic athletics: youth sports: coaches: behavioral and mental health training.

Current Text: 03/16/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/16/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the governing board of each school district to have general control of, and be responsible for, all aspects of the interscholastic athletic policies, programs, and activities in its school district, as provided, and requires the governing board of a school district to ensure that all interscholastic policies, programs, and activities in the school district are in compliance with state and federal law. Existing law authorizes the governing board of a school district to enter into associations or consortia with other governing boards for purposes of governing regional or statewide interscholastic athletics, as provided. Existing law describes the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) as a voluntary organization that consists of school and school-related personnel with responsibility for administering interscholastic athletic activities in secondary schools and states the intent of the Legislature that the CIF, in consultation with the State Department of Education, implement specified policies relating to interscholastic athletics. Existing law, the 1998 California High School Coaching Education and Training Program, declares the intent of the Legislature to establish a California High School Coaching Education and Training Program, to be administered by school districts with an emphasis on specific components, including, among other components, sports psychology. Existing law requires every high school sports coach to complete, at their own expense, a coaching education program that meets the guidelines established by the California High School Coaching Education and Training Program. This bill would add a component on behavioral and mental health and trauma-informed care, as specified, to the list of components to be emphasized by the 1998 California High School Coaching Education and Training Program. The bill would, commencing with the 2027–28 school year, as a condition of employment or volunteer service, require all persons who serve as coaches in interscholastic athletic programs at high schools, including private high schools, that are members of the CIF to complete initial training, and subsequent training every 2 years, that covers specified mental health-related topics. (Based on 03/16/2026 text)

AB 2150 (Haney, D) Employment: training requirements: opioid overdose reversals.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: The California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 (OSHA) requires employers to comply with certain safety and health standards, as specified, and charges the division with enforcement of the act. Existing law requires the Division of Occupational Safety and Health, before December 1, 2027, to submit a draft rulemaking proposal to revise specified regulations on first aid materials and emergency medical services to require first aid materials in a workplace to include naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration to reverse opioid overdose and instructions for using the opioid antagonist. Existing law requires the standards board to consider for adoption revised standards for the standards described above on or before December 1, 2028. This bill would require an employer operating in this state that requires cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification training of its employees to also require those employees to take an online video module training on the use of naloxone to increase the rate of opioid overdose reversals, as prescribed. The bill would require the Emergency Medical Services Authority to oversee the training curriculum required pursuant to these provisions. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

SB 903 (Padilla, D) Mental health professionals: artificial intelligence.

Current Text: 01/21/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Current law establishes the Board of Behavioral Sciences in the Department of Consumer Affairs to regulate licensees under the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Act, the Educational Psychologist Practice Act, the Clinical Social Worker Practice Act, and the Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Act. Existing law regulates the use of artificial intelligence, as defined. Current law requires a health facility, clinic, physician's office, or office of a group practice that uses generative artificial intelligence to generate written or verbal patient communications pertaining to patient clinical

information to ensure those communications include a disclaimer that indicates to the patient that a communication was generated by artificial intelligence and instructions describing how a patient may contact a human health care provider, employee, or other appropriate person. This bill would prohibit a licensed professional, as defined, from engaging in the use of artificial intelligence to assist in providing supplementary support in therapy or psychotherapy where the client's therapeutic session is recorded or transcribed unless the patient or their authorized representative is informed that artificial intelligence will be used and provides consent, as specified. The bill would also prohibit an individual, corporation, or entity from providing, advertising, or otherwise offering therapy or psychotherapy, including through the use of internet-based artificial intelligence, to the public in this state unless the therapy or psychotherapy services are conducted by an individual who is a licensed professional. (Based on 01/21/2026 text)

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

[AB 1669](#) (Pacheco, D) Student health: leaves of absence: mental health.

Current Text: 03/09/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/09/2026

Summary: The Donahoe Higher Education Act requests the Regents of the University of California, and requires the Trustees of the California State University, to require each campus in their respective segments to grant students the right to reenroll in their baccalaureate degree program after withdrawing or stopping out, if the student was in good academic standing with the university. This bill, commencing with the 2027–28 academic year, would require a campus of the University of California, the California State University, or the California Community Colleges, a private postsecondary educational institution, or an independent institution of higher education to (1) adopt a written policy to allow a student to take a voluntary medical leave of absence for a period to be determined by the postsecondary educational institution, or for a period of one academic year, whichever is longer, and (2) reasonably accommodate a student facing medical challenges so the student is able complete their courses of study and research. The bill would prohibit the leave of absence policy from, among other things, requiring a student who takes a leave of absence to withdraw from the postsecondary educational institution. The bill would require a postsecondary educational institution to make the leave of absence policy available to faculty, staff, and employees in a required training and available to students at an orientation session. These provisions would apply to the University of California only to the extent that the regents, by appropriate resolution, make them applicable. (Based on 03/09/2026 text)

[AB 1985](#) (Irwin, D) Student health: athletic coaches: mental health training.

Current Text: 03/16/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/16/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes the Office of the Surgeon General, within the California Health and Human Services Agency, to, among other things, advise the Governor, the Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency, and policymakers on a comprehensive approach to address health issues and challenges as effectively and early as possible, as provided. Existing law designates the Surgeon General as the director of the office. This bill, which would be known as Sarah Shulze's Law, would require the Surgeon General, on or before July 1, 2027, to identify and compile a list of mental health training programs that postsecondary educational institutions can use to train athletic coaches that meet minimum standards, which the Surgeon General would be required to establish. The bill would require the California State University, each community college district, and each private postsecondary educational institution and independent institution of higher education that receives state financial assistance to, and would request the University of California to, require a person who serves as a coach in an athletic program, as a condition of the person's employment or volunteer service, to complete a student mental health training that has been approved by the Surgeon General. By imposing new duties on community college districts, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. (Based on 03/16/2026 text)

[AB 2345 \(Bains, D\)](#) Student loans: medical, nursing, and social work students: California Health Care Workforce Supplemental Loan Program.

Current Text: 03/24/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/24/2026

Summary: Would establish the California Health Care Workforce Supplemental Loan Program, under the administration of the Student Aid Commission, for the purpose of providing eligible students, as defined, with access to the same level of financial assistance toward the cost of attendance at an accredited medical or nursing school, or at a school's accredited social work program, that was available on or before January 20, 2025, through federal direct unsubsidized loans and federal direct grad PLUS loans. The bill would require the commission to establish an application process and would require the loans issued under the program to have equivalent financial terms as the federal Direct PLUS Loans, as those terms existed on January 20, 2025, except for changes that the commission determines to be necessary to administer the program. The bill would create the Health Care Workforce Supplemental Loan Fund in the State Treasury. (Based on 03/24/2026 text)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

[SB 998 \(Gonzalez, D\)](#) Educational equity: discrimination prevention coordinators.

Current Text: 03/25/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/25/2026

Summary: Existing law states the policy of the State of California is to afford all persons in public schools, regardless of their disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other specified characteristic, equal rights and opportunities in the educational institutions of the state. Existing law establishes the Office of Civil Rights, under the administration of the Government Operations Agency. Existing law requires the Office of Civil Rights to employ a Religious Discrimination Prevention Coordinator, a Race and Ethnicity Discrimination Prevention Coordinator, a Gender Discrimination Prevention Coordinator, and an LGBTQ Discrimination Prevention Coordinator. Existing law requires each of the coordinators be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. This bill would require the Office of Civil Rights to employ a Disability Discrimination Prevention Coordinator to be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The bill would change the title of the LGBTQ Discrimination Prevention Coordinator to instead be the LGBTQ+ Discrimination Prevention Coordinator. The bill would require each of the coordinators, in consultation with the State Department of Education, and under the supervision of the Government Operations Agency, to, among other things, (1) develop, consult on, and provide discrimination education to teachers, staff, governing board and body members, administrators, and other local educational agency personnel to identify and proactively prevent discrimination, as provided, (2) provide technical assistance to local educational agencies to access restorative justice resources, training, and practitioners, and (3) engage with local educational agencies to ensure administrators are equipped to address conflicts at an early stage with the goal of proactively resolving incidents of discrimination, as specified. (Based on 03/25/2026 text)

PUPIL DISCIPLINE

[AB 2159 \(Garcia, D\)](#) Pupil discipline: cyberbullying: parent accountability.

Current Text: 02/18/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Current law prohibits a pupil from being suspended from school or recommended for expulsion, unless the superintendent of the school district or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed an act from a list of specified acts, including an act of bullying, which is defined as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more specified effects. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation that would, among other things, require that a pupil

and the parent or guardian of a pupil who engages in repeated acts of cyberbullying or is suspended for cyberbullying participate in a program of rehabilitative cyberbullying education, counseling, or training. (Based on 02/18/2026 text)

PUPILS

[AB 1159](#) (Addis, D) Student personal information.

Current Text: 01/16/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 01/16/2026

Summary: The K–12 Pupil Online Personal Information Protection Act (KOPIPA) generally protects the personal information of a student enrolled in a K–12 course of instruction, defined as a “pupil,” by prescribing requirements and prohibitions applicable to an operator of an internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application with actual knowledge that the site, service, or application is used primarily for K–12 school purposes and was designed and marketed for K–12 school purposes. The Early Learning Personal Information Protection Act (ELPIPA) generally protects the personal information of a child enrolled in a preschool or prekindergarten course of instruction, defined as a “pupil,” by prescribing requirements and prohibitions applicable to an operator of an internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application with actual knowledge that the site, service, or application is used primarily for preschool or prekindergarten purposes and was designed and marketed for preschool and prekindergarten purposes. This bill would instead apply the provisions of KOPIPA and ELPIPA to an operator, or an entity working on behalf of the operator, of an internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application with actual knowledge that the site, service, or application is used for the applicable school purposes and was designed or marketed for those purposes, as specified. The bill would, among other changes to KOPIPA and ELPIPA related to protecting the personal information of students, prohibit an operator from using covered information, as defined, including persistent unique identifiers, created or gathered by the operator’s site, service, or application to train a generative artificial intelligence system or service or develop an artificial intelligence system. (Based on 01/16/2026 text)

[AB 1644](#) (Muratsuchi, D) Pupils: use of smartphones: prohibition.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the governing board of a school district, a county board of education, and the governing body of a charter school to, no later than July 1, 2026, develop and adopt, and update every 5 years, a policy to limit or prohibit the use by its pupils of smartphones while the pupils are at a schoolsite or while the pupils are under the supervision and control of an employee or employees of that local educational agency. This bill would make these provisions inoperative on July 1, 2027, and would repeal it as of January 1, 2028. The bill would instead require the governing board of a school district, a county board of education, and the governing body of a charter school to, no later than July 1, 2027, develop and adopt, and update every 5 years, a policy that prohibits the use of smartphones by pupils while the pupils are at a schoolsite or while the pupils are under the supervision and control of an employee or employees of that local educational agency. The bill would require the adopted policy to be made available to the State Department of Education upon request. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

[SB 1128](#) (Stern, D) Pupils: use of social media.

Current Text: 02/17/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Would expressly authorize the governing board of a school district, a county board of education, or the governing body of a charter school to establish a “Wait Until 8th” program to encourage parents and pupils to refrain from social media use until at least grade 8. (Based on 02/17/2026 text)

SCHOOL SAFETY

[AB 2291 \(Lackey, R\)](#) **Pupil safety: nonconsensual intimate images: study.**

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: Would require the State Department of Education to conduct a study on nonconsensual intimate images involving pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, and would require the study to include, among other things, a summary of the resources for schools regarding nonconsensual intimate images and the effects of nonconsensual intimate images on pupils. The bill would require the department, on or before January 1, 2028, to complete and submit the study to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2032. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

SPECIAL EDUCATION

[AB 2233 \(Ta, R\)](#) **Behavioral health treatment plans.**

Current Text: 02/19/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Current law provides for the regulation of health insurers by the Department of Insurance. Current law requires a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy to provide coverage for behavioral health treatment for pervasive developmental disorder or autism. Current law requires this treatment to be provided under a prescribed treatment plan that is reviewed no less than every 6 months by the qualified autism service provider. This bill would prohibit a health care service plan or health insurer from imposing restrictions on the utilization of authorized treatment hours within the treatment plan's 6-month authorization period. The bill would require authorized hours to remain available for use throughout the authorization period. Because a willful violation of these provisions by a health care service plan would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. (Based on 02/19/2026 text)

WATCH

[AB 1126 \(Patterson, R\)](#) **Medi-Cal managed care plans: enrollees with other health care coverage.**

Current Text: 01/05/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 01/05/2026

Summary: Current law establishes the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services and under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services, under fee-for-service or managed care delivery systems. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid program provisions. Under current federal law, in accordance with third-party liability rules, Medicaid is generally the payer of last resort if a beneficiary has another source of health care coverage in addition to Medicaid coverage. This bill would require the department, in the case of a Medi-Cal managed care plan enrollee who also has other health care coverage and for whom the Medi-Cal program is a payer of last resort, to ensure that a provider that is not contracted with the plan and that is billing the plan for Medi-Cal allowable costs not paid by the other health care coverage does not face administrative requirements significantly in excess of the administrative requirements for billing those same costs to the Medi-Cal fee-for-service delivery system. Under the bill, in the case of an enrollee who meets those coverage criteria, except as specified, a Medi-Cal fee-for-service provider would not be required to contract as an in-network provider with the Medi-Cal managed care plan in order to bill the plan for Medi-Cal allowable costs for covered health care services. The bill would authorize a Medi-Cal managed care plan to require a letter of agreement, or a similar agreement, under specified circumstances, including if a covered service requires prior authorization, or if a service is not covered by the other health care coverage but is a covered service under the plan, as specified. (Based on 01/05/2026 text)

[AB 1598 \(Quirk-Silva, D\)](#) Behavioral sciences.

Current Text: 03/18/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/18/2026

Summary: The Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Act (LMFTA), the Clinical Social Worker Practice Act (CSWPA), and the Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Act (LPCCA) each contain varying provisions limiting their application to the practice of certain medical and other behavioral science professionals, attorneys, and certain religious personnel, including priests, rabbis, and ministers of the gospel of any religious denomination. This bill would revise and recast those provisions to make them consistent across those 3 acts. Specifically, the bill would provide that LMFTA, the CSWPA, and the LPCCA do not prevent qualified members of other professional groups, including those referenced above, from doing work of a psychosocial nature consistent with the standards, ethics, and scope of practice of their respective professions. The bill would prohibit those other professionals from stating or implying that they are licensed or registered under the LMFTA, the CSWPA, or the LPCCA, as specified. The bill would exempt a religious official of any denomination, including those specified above and imams, when providing faith-based counseling services as part of their regular professional duties for an established and legally recognizable faith-based entity if certain criteria are met. (Based on 03/18/2026 text)

[AB 2011 \(Hart, D\)](#) Nonquantitative treatment limitations.

Current Text: 02/17/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Current federal law, the federal Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (MHPAEA), requires group health plans and health insurance issuers that provide both medical and surgical benefits and mental health or substance use disorder benefits to ensure that financial requirements and treatment limitations applicable to mental health or substance use disorder benefits are no more restrictive than the predominant requirements or limitations applied to substantially all medical and surgical benefits. Current state law requires every health care service plan and disability insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2021, that provides hospital, medical, or surgical coverage to provide coverage for medically necessary treatment of mental health and substance use disorders under the same terms and conditions applied to other medical conditions, as specified. This bill would prohibit a health care service plan or insurer from relying upon discriminatory factors or evidentiary standards to design a nonquantitative treatment limitation (NQTL) to be imposed on mental health or substance use disorder benefits, as specified. To ensure that an NQTL applicable to mental health or substance use disorder benefits in a classification is no more restrictive than the predominant NQTL applied to substantially all medical/surgical benefits in the classification, the bill would require a health care service plan or insurer to collect and evaluate relevant data to assess the impact of the NQTL on outcomes related to access to mental health and substance use disorder benefits and medical/surgical benefits. The bill would require specified health care service plans or insurers to perform and document comparative analyses of the design and application of each NQTL applicable to mental health or substance use disorder benefits in accordance with prescribed requirements and submit the analyses to the respective departments by January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter. (Based on 02/17/2026 text)

[AB 2077 \(Macedo, R\)](#) Protect the Promise Act.

Current Text: 02/18/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Current federal law sets forth various changes to Medicaid eligibility with regard to community engagement reporting, redeterminations, cost sharing, and retroactive coverage, among other factors, for certain Medicaid populations pursuant to a specified implementation timeline. This bill, the Protect the Promise Act, would require the department, in coordination with counties, to verify Medi-Cal eligibility before enrollment approval whenever reliable data sources are available. The bill, subject to any exceptions under federal law, would prohibit self-attestation alone for Medi-Cal eligibility purposes from being accepted for the eligibility factors of income, residency, identity, household composition, or citizenship or immigration status. (Based on 02/18/2026 text)

[AB 2138](#) ([Krell, D](#)) **Medi-Cal: enhanced care management: peer support specialists.**

Current Text: 03/24/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/24/2026

Summary: The Medi-Cal program is in part governed by, and funded pursuant to, federal Medicaid program provisions. Existing law requires the State Department of Health Care Services to implement an enhanced care management (ECM) benefit designed to address the clinical and nonclinical needs on a whole-person-care basis for certain target populations of Medi-Cal beneficiaries enrolled in Medi-Cal managed care plans. Under existing law, target populations include, among others, high utilizers with frequent hospital admissions, short-term skilled nursing facility stays, or emergency room visits, and individuals experiencing homelessness. Existing law authorizes a county, or an agency representing a county, to develop a peer support specialist certification program, subject to departmental approval. Under existing law, these specialists are individuals, at least 18 years of age, who self-identify as having lived experience with the process of recovery from mental illness, substance use disorder, or both, as specified. Existing law requires the department to seek any federal waivers that it deems necessary to establish a demonstration or pilot project for the provision of peer support services in counties that agree to participate. This bill would require the State Department of Health Care Services to require, as a condition of providing ECM, that each ECM provider maintain an interdisciplinary care team that includes at least one peer support specialist who is integrated into ECM service delivery and available to support ECM members. The bill would set forth the functions of a peer support specialist for ECM purposes. (Based on 03/24/2026 text)

[AB 2161](#) ([Bonta, D](#)) **Medi-Cal: redeterminations and work or community engagement.**

Current Text: 03/23/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/23/2026

Summary: The Medi-Cal program is in part governed by, and funded pursuant to, federal Medicaid program provisions. Existing federal law, enacted on July 4, 2025, sets forth various changes to Medicaid eligibility with regard to community engagement reporting, redeterminations, cost sharing, and retroactive coverage, among other factors, for certain Medicaid populations, including beneficiaries between 19 and 64 years of age, inclusive, with income up to 138% of the federal poverty level, commonly known as Medicaid expansion adults. (1)For purposes of Medicaid eligibility redeterminations, the above-described federal law requires that a Medicaid expansion adult undergo a redetermination once every 6 months, instead of an annual redetermination, except as specified. Existing state law generally requires a county to perform eligibility redeterminations for Medi-Cal beneficiaries every 12 months and to promptly redetermine eligibility whenever the county receives information about changes in a beneficiary's circumstances, as specified. This bill would make changes to those redetermination provisions to conform to the 6-month redetermination requirement under the above-described federal law for Medicaid expansion adults. (Based on 03/23/2026 text)

[AB 2247](#) ([Elhawary, D](#)) **Trauma Healing and Resilience Investment for Victimized and Exposed Youth Act.**

Current Text: 03/23/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/23/2026

Summary: Existing law generally provides for the compensation of victims and derivative victims of specified types of crimes by the California Victim Compensation Board from the Restitution Fund, a continuously appropriated fund, for specified losses suffered as a result of those crimes. Existing law sets forth eligibility requirements and limits on the amount of compensation that the board may award, and requires the application for compensation to be verified under penalty of perjury. This bill would create the Trauma Healing and Resilience Investment for Victimized and Exposed Youth Act (T.H.R.I.V.E.) to be administered by the State Department of Health Care Services for the administration of grants to a county or city and county to establish and administer a program to pay for mental health and counseling services for youth survivors of gun violence, as defined, who request those services and who reside in the county or city and county. The bill would require each county or city and county to use

funds awarded under these provisions to establish and administer a program to pay for mental health and counseling services for youth survivors of gun violence that live within the county and who request those services, as specified. The bill would require policies and procedures for distributing funds to meet certain requirements, including, among other things, allowing youth survivors of gun violence, or their parents or guardians for survivors who are minors, to attest to their experiences of gun violence without requiring external documentation of the gun violence incident. (Based on 03/23/2026 text)

SB 874 (Weber Pierson, D) Medi-Cal: behavioral health treatment workgroup.

Current Text: 03/17/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/17/2026

Summary: Under existing law, to the extent required by the federal government and effective no sooner than required by the federal government, behavioral health treatment (BHT) is a covered service under the Medi-Cal program for individuals under 21 years of age. This bill would require the department, on or before July 1, 2027, to ensure that certain individuals providing BHT services under Medi-Cal undergo background checks. The bill would require the department to convene a stakeholder workgroup made up of BHT providers, managed care plans, and consumers with autism, among others, to review the implementation of BHT services in Medi-Cal and to advise the department on clinical guidelines for the provision of BHT services, treatment plan requirements, requirements for the provision of center-based services compared to services provided elsewhere, and supervision of unlicensed professionals, as specified. The bill would require the department, on or before April 1, 2028, to release and maintain clear clinical guidance for the provision of the BHT benefit, as specified. (Based on 03/17/2026 text)

SB 1280 (Valladares, R) Health care coverage for mental health and substance use disorders.

Current Text: 03/24/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/24/2026

Summary: Existing law requires a health care service plan contract or disability insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2021, to provide coverage for medically necessary treatment of mental health and substance use disorders under the same terms and conditions applied to other medical conditions. Existing law requires a plan or insurer, if services for the medically necessary treatment of a mental health or substance use disorder are not available in network within the geographic and timely access standards set by law or regulation, to arrange coverage to ensure the delivery of medically necessary out-of-network services and any medically necessary followup services that, to the maximum extent possible, meet those geographic and timely access standards. Existing law prohibits an enrollee or insured from paying an out-of-network provider more than the same cost sharing that the individual would pay for the same covered services received from an in-network provider. This bill would require a health care service plan or disability insurer to reimburse a noncontracting individual health professional the greater of the average contracted rate or 125% of the amount Medicare reimburses for similar services, as specified, for out-of-network services that are provided as described above. The bill would prohibit an enrollee or insured from owing the health professional more than the in-network cost-sharing amount, and would prohibit the health professional from billing or collecting an amount from the enrollee or insured that is more than that amount. The bill would require any communication from the health professional to an enrollee or insured, before the receipt of information about the amount the individual owes for services provided, to include a notice informing the individual that it is not a bill and not to pay until they are informed by their plan or insurer of any applicable cost sharing. The bill would require a plan or insurer to inform an enrollee or insured and the noncontracting individual health professional of the in-network cost-sharing amount owed by the individual at the time of payment by the plan or insurer to the health professional. Under the bill, the payments made by the plan or insurer and enrollee or insured pursuant to these provisions would constitute full payment. (Based on 03/24/2026 text)

MISCELLANEOUS

[AB 1700](#) (Lowenthal, D) e-Safety Commission: youth online protection.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: The Digital Age Assurance Act requires, beginning January 1, 2027, an operating system provider to provide an accessible interface at account setup that requires an accountholder to indicate the birth date, age, or both, of the user of that device for the purpose of providing a signal regarding the user's age bracket to applications available in a covered application store, among other things related to providing a uniform system for obtaining age information about a user of certain software applications. Existing law defines "user" for these purposes to mean a child that is the primary user of the device. This bill would establish the e-Safety Commission, as specified, and would require the commission to develop minimum age compliance guidelines for covered entities, as defined, review age assurance technologies used to implement the minimum age verification, and establish procedures for noncompliance investigations. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

[AB 1709](#) (Lowenthal, D) Covered platforms: account creation: age restriction.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: The Protecting Our Kids from Social Media Addiction Act prohibits an operator of an addictive internet-based service or application from providing an addictive feed, as defined, to a user unless the operator does not have actual knowledge that the user is a minor, as specified, or the operator has obtained verifiable parental consent to provide an addictive feed to the user who is a minor. Existing law, the Digital Age Assurance Act, beginning January 1, 2027, requires a person who owns, maintains, or controls a software application, as defined, to request age bracket data sent by a real-time secure application programming interface or operating system with respect to a particular user from an operating system provider or a covered application store when the application is downloaded and launched. This bill would prohibit a covered platform from permitting a user who is under 16 years of age to create or maintain an account on the covered platform and would require a covered platform to implement reasonable measures to prevent users under 16 years of age from accessing or using accounts on the covered platform.
(Based on 03/19/2026 text)

[AB 1804](#) (Hart, D) State parks: parks passes: libraries.

Current Text: 02/10/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Current law authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to establish the California State Park Adventure Pass to be available, upon application to the department, to any child in grade 4, or grade 4 equivalent, who is a California resident and enrolled in a California public school. Current law authorizes the department to waive the day use entrance fees to an eligible unit of the state park system for any child who holds a valid pass, as provided. The bill would declare, among other things, that it is the policy of the state to ensure equitable and inclusive access to the state park system by empowering the department to administer programs that broaden public access to the state parks. The bill would authorize the department to work with the California State Library and individual library systems to provide park passes. (Based on 02/10/2026 text)

[AB 1924](#) (Gabriel, D) Statewide homelessness prevention strategy.

Current Text: 03/09/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/09/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes various programs to prevent homelessness or assist persons experiencing homelessness, including the No Place Like Home Program and the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program. This bill would require the Department of Housing and Community

Development, by July 1, 2027, to develop and publicly issue a statewide homelessness prevention strategy that includes specified elements, including a homelessness prevention action plan for certain state agencies and evidence-based model homeless prevention practices, as specified. The bill would require the department to annually review and update the strategy and publish any revisions. The bill would define various terms for these purposes. (Based on 03/09/2026 text)

[AB 1996](#) ([Bonta, D](#)) **California Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council.**

Current Text: 02/17/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Would establish, within the California Health and Human Services Agency, the California Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council. The bill would require the State Department of Social Services to staff and administer the council. The bill would require the council to be cochaired by the Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency and the Director of Social Services, or their designees, and would specify the membership of the council, which would include 18 members, as specified. The bill would establish the duties of the council, including, among other things, the duty to evaluate the impacts of various types of policy proposals that would affect children and to submit an analysis of budget provisions expected to affect child poverty and child well-being within 10 days of the release of both the Governor's annual budget proposal and the May Revision. The bill would also require the council to submit various reports to the Legislature, including, among others, an initial report by July 1, 2027. (Based on 02/17/2026 text)

[AB 2023](#) ([Wicks, D](#)) **Companion chatbots: children's safety.**

Current Text: 03/25/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/25/2026

Summary: Existing law generally regulates artificial intelligence, including companion chatbots, as defined. Existing law requires an operator, as defined, to prevent a companion chatbot on its companion chatbot platform from engaging with users unless the operator maintains a protocol for preventing the production of suicidal ideation, suicide, or self-harm content to the user. Existing law requires an operator, for a user the operator knows is a minor, to, among other things, notify the user that the user is interacting with artificial intelligence and to disclose that companion chatbots may not be suitable for some minors, as specified. The Digital Age Assurance Act requires a person who owns, maintains, or controls a software application, as defined, to request age bracket data sent by a real-time secure application programming interface or operating system with respect to a particular user from an operating system provider or a covered application store when the application is downloaded and launched. This bill would require an operator of a companion chatbot to, on or before July 1, 2027, do various things with respect to child safety and companion chatbots, including annually perform and document a comprehensive risk assessment to identify any child safety risk posed by the design, configuration, and operation of the companion chatbot that assesses, among other things, the likelihood of a covered harm, as defined, occurring to users. The bill would require an operator to submit to an independent audit of its compliance with those provisions, as specified, and would require, within 90 days of completing an independent audit, the auditor to submit an AI child safety audit report to the Attorney General for any audited companion chatbot. The bill would, except as specified, require those audit reports to be kept confidential. (Based on 03/25/2026 text)

[AB 2093](#) ([Bauer-Kahan, D](#)) **State 988 advisory group.**

Current Text: 03/26/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/26/2026

Summary: Existing law, the Miles Hall Lifeline and Suicide Prevention Act, requires, among other things, the California Health and Human Services Agency to create, no later than December 31, 2024, a set of recommendations to support a 5-year implementation plan for a comprehensive 988 system. Existing law requires the agency to convene a state 988 advisory group for purposes of advising the agency on the set of recommendations and requires the recommendations to include specified information. Existing law requires the advisory group to meet at least once per quarter until December

31, 2024. Existing law authorizes the agency to disband the advisory group on or after January 1, 2025. This bill would require the advisory group to meet at least once per quarter until December 31, 2029. The bill would authorize the agency to disband the advisory group on or after January 1, 2030. (Based on 03/26/2026 text)

[AB 2246 \(Wicks, D\)](#) Youth Social Media Protection Act: report.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: The Youth Social Media Protection Act requires a large social media platform to create a process by which a verified reporter can make a report of a social media-related threat or a violation of the large social media platform's terms of service that in the verified reporter's opinion poses a risk or a severe risk to the health and safety of a minor, as specified. This bill would require the Attorney General to submit a report to the Legislature on children's safety features on social media platforms. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

[AB 2267 \(Garcia, D\)](#) State bridges and overpasses: suicide prevention.

Current Text: 03/24/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/24/2026

Summary: Existing law requires, beginning on or before July 1, 2028, the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the State Department of Public Health and in collaboration with impacted local governments, to incorporate suicide deterrent considerations in the updates of applicable guidance documents, as provided. This bill would require the Department of Transportation to additionally develop and maintain, beginning on or before July 1, 2029, a set of preapproved suicide prevention safety-barrier designs that local governments may use to install suicide prevention barriers, as provided. (Based on 03/24/2026 text)

[AB 2617 \(Schiavo, D\)](#) Protecting Kids from Online Gambling Act.

Current Text: 03/16/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/16/2026

Summary: Existing law prohibits a person under 21 years of age from playing, being allowed to play, placing wagers at, or collecting winnings from, a controlled game, as specified. Existing law prohibits lottery tickets from being sold to persons under 18 years of age. Existing law prohibits specified unfair acts or practices undertaken or committed by any person in the operation of any contest or sweepstakes, including, among other things, using or offering for use any method, including an internet website or an online application, intended to be used by a person interacting with an electronic video monitor, mobile telephone, computer terminal, or similar internet access device, to simulate gambling. This bill, the Protecting Kids from Online Gambling Act, would prohibit operators of internet websites, online services, online applications, or mobile applications from making available, or advertising, online gambling activities or prediction market wagering to minors, as specified. The bill would prohibit the information collected for purposes of compliance from being used for any purpose unrelated to determining whether the user is a minor, and would require the information to be immediately deleted after age determination is complete, except as specified. The bill would authorize the Attorney General or a city attorney to bring a civil action for a violation of these provisions to obtain specified civil penalties, attorney's fees and costs, and injunctive or declaratory relief. (Based on 03/16/2026 text)

[AB 2662 \(Carrillo, D\)](#) Working Group on Civil Rights Accountability.

Current Text: 02/20/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: Existing law requires law enforcement and state and local governments to interact with and report on federal action against individuals based on their perceived or actual immigration status in various specified manners. Under existing law, for example, a local governing body of any county, city,

or city and county in which a local law enforcement agency has provided access to an individual during the last year by the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is required to hold at least one community forum, as specified, to provide public information about ICE's access to individuals and to receive and consider public comment. This bill would establish within the Department of Justice on July 1, 2027, the Working Group on Civil Rights Accountability, consisting of 12 appointed members, to develop and maintain a statewide reporting dashboard with specific data fields to document and categorize alleged constitutional or civil rights violations arising from federal immigration enforcement activities within the state. The bill would require a nonprofit organization, if eligible as specified, to be authorized to submit reports to the dashboard. The bill would require the department to establish specific standards, protocols, and procedures for a nonprofit organization to submit reports to the dashboard, including establishing data verification procedures. The bill would require the working group to submit an annual report of specific information and policy recommendations to the Legislature and make that annual report publicly available. This bill contains other related provisions. (Based on 02/20/2026 text)

SB 300 (Padilla, D) Companion chatbots.

Current Text: 01/05/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 01/05/2026

Summary: Current law requires that if a reasonable person interacting with a companion chatbot, as defined, would be misled to believe that the person is interacting with a human, an operator of a companion chatbot platform must issue a clear and conspicuous notification indicating that the companion chatbot is artificially generated and not human. Current law requires a chatbot operator to maintain a protocol for preventing the production of suicidal ideation, suicide, or self-harm content to the user, as specified, and would require an operator to publish details on that protocol on the operator's internet website. Current law requires an operator to take certain actions with respect to a user the operator knows is a minor, including instituting reasonable measures to prevent the companion chatbot from producing sexually explicit visual material or proposing sexually explicit conduct. This bill would instead require a companion chatbot operator to take the above actions when it has constructive knowledge that a user is a minor. (Based on 01/05/2026 text)

SB 557 (Hurtado, D) Child abuse: family resource centers.

Current Text: 01/05/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 01/05/2026

Summary: Current law requires the Office of Child Abuse Prevention in the State Department of Social Services to use federal funding to undertake specified activities, including, among other things, supporting coordination and sharing of best practices implemented by family resource centers with other agencies, when the best practices reflect strategies and outcomes that were achieved and supported by evidence-informed programs and data. Current law authorizes a county to establish a child abuse multidisciplinary personnel team within that county to allow provider agencies to share confidential information in order for provider agencies to investigate reports of suspected child abuse or neglect, as specified, or for the purpose of child welfare agencies making a detention determination. Current law specifies that the multidisciplinary personnel team may include a representative of a local child abuse prevention council or family-strengthening organization, including, but not limited to, a family resource center. Current law defines "family resource center," for purposes of these provisions. This bill would instead define "family resource center" to mean a family-friendly entity serving as a hub for multigenerational, family-centered, and family-strengthening support services that are provided at no cost or low cost to participants, embedded in communities, culturally sensitive, reflective of, and responsive to, community needs and interests, build communities of peer support for families, and include cross-system collaboration to assist in transforming families and communities through reciprocity, development of social connections that reduce isolation and stress, and asset development based on impact-driven and evidence-informed approaches with the goal of preventing child abuse and neglect and strengthening children and families. (Based on 01/05/2026 text)

SB 747 (Wiener, D) Civil rights: deprivation of federal constitutional rights, privileges, and immunities.

Current Text: 01/22/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 01/22/2026

Summary: Under current law, the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act (act), if a person or persons, whether or not acting under color of law, interferes or attempts to interfere, by threats, intimidation, or coercion, with the exercise or enjoyment by any individual or individuals of rights secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or of the rights secured by the Constitution or laws of this state, the Attorney General, or any district attorney or city attorney, is authorized to bring a civil action for injunctive and other appropriate equitable relief in the name of the people of the State of California, in order to protect the exercise or enjoyment of the right or rights secured. Under that act, an individual may also institute and prosecute in their own name and on their own behalf a civil action for damages, as described, for any resulting interference or attempt at interference of the individual's exercise or enjoyment of rights secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States or this state. That act requires the aforementioned actions to be filed in either the superior court for the county in which the conduct complained of occurred or in the superior court for the county in which a person whose conduct complained of resides or has their place of business (venue requirement). The act authorizes the court to award the petitioner or plaintiff reasonable attorney's fees in addition to any damages, injunction, or other equitable relief awarded in these civil actions (attorney's fees authorization). This bill would also provide that every person who, under color of any law, statute, ordinance, regulation, custom, or usage, as defined, subjects or causes to be subjected any citizen of this state or any person within the jurisdiction thereof to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the United States Constitution, shall be liable to the party injured in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress, except as specified. (Based on 01/22/2026 text)

SB 934 (Wiener, D) Sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts: actions for recovery of damages: statute of limitations.

Current Text: 03/19/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/19/2026

Summary: Existing law requires that specified actions for recovery of damages suffered as a result of childhood sexual assault, as defined, be commenced within 22 years of the date the plaintiff attains the age of majority or within 5 years of the date the plaintiff discovers or reasonably should have discovered that psychological injury or illness occurring after the age of majority was caused by the sexual assault, whichever period expires later. Existing law imposes various procedural requirements for such claims. This bill would require specified actions for recovery of damages suffered as a result of sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts, as defined, be commenced (1) within 22 years of the date the plaintiff attains the age of majority if the plaintiff was under the age of 18 when at the time of conduct, (2) within 10 years if the plaintiff was 18 years of age or older at the time of conduct, (3) or within 5 years of the date the plaintiff discovers that psychological injury or illness occurring after the conduct was caused by sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts, as specified. The bill would define "sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts" to include efforts to direct a patient toward a particular sexual orientation or a particular gender identity, as specified. The bill would apply to actions for damages commencing after January 1, 2027, against licensed mental health providers, as defined, and against persons and entities that employed, supervised, or otherwise exercised authority over a licensed mental health provider. The bill would make specified types of evidence, including certain expert testimony, admissible to establish causation and harm for these actions. The bill would revive certain actions that have not been litigated to finality and that would otherwise be barred as of January 1, 2027, because the applicable statute of limitations or any other time limit had expired. The bill would provide that its provisions are severable. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

SB 1114 (Cabaldon, D) Data collection: sexual orientation, gender identity, and intersex status: disclosure.

Current Text: 02/17/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Summary: The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex Disparities Reduction Act requires the State Department of Public Health, among other specified state entities, in the course of collecting demographic data directly or by contract as to the ancestry or ethnic origin of Californians, to collect voluntary self-identification information pertaining to sexual orientation, gender identity, and variations in sex characteristics/intersex status (SOGISC). This bill would define “information pertaining to SOGISC” to mean information pertaining to a person’s sexual orientation identity, gender identity or gender expression, identification as intersex, or identification as possessing sex characteristics that vary from those typically associated with a person’s sex assigned at birth. (Based on 02/17/2026 text)

SB 1119 (Padilla, D) Companion chatbots: children’s safety.

Current Text: 03/25/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/25/2026

Summary: Existing law generally regulates artificial intelligence, including companion chatbots, as defined. Existing law requires an operator, as defined, to prevent a companion chatbot on its companion chatbot platform from engaging with users unless the operator maintains a protocol for preventing the production of suicidal ideation, suicide, or self-harm content to the user. Existing law requires an operator, for a user the operator knows is a minor, to, among other things, notify the user that the user is interacting with artificial intelligence and to disclose that companion chatbots may not be suitable for some minors, as specified. The Digital Age Assurance Act requires a person who owns, maintains, or controls a software application, as defined, to request age bracket data sent by a real-time secure application programming interface or operating system with respect to a particular user from an operating system provider or a covered application store when the application is downloaded and launched. This bill would require an operator of a companion chatbot to, on or before July 1, 2027, do various things with respect to child safety and companion chatbots, including annually perform and document a comprehensive risk assessment to identify any child safety risk posed by the design, configuration, and operation of the companion chatbot that assesses, among other things, the likelihood of a covered harm, as defined, occurring to users. The bill would require an operator to submit to an independent audit of its compliance with those provisions, as specified, and would require, within 90 days of completing an independent audit, the auditor to submit an AI child safety audit report to the Attorney General for any audited companion chatbot. The bill would, except as specified, require those audit reports to be kept confidential. (Based on 03/25/2026 text)

SB 1190 (Grove, R) Safe Passage for Youth Act.

Current Text: 03/25/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/25/2026

Summary: The California Community Care Facilities Act provides for the licensure and regulation of community care facilities, including a variety of facilities providing care and services to children, such as children’s crisis residential programs and short-term residential therapeutic programs, by the State Department of Social Services. This bill, the Safe Passage for Youth Act, would require the department to license and regulate youth transportation companies operating in California. The bill would require the department to establish application requirements and criteria for licensure and to conduct criminal background checks of applicants, and certain other individuals, as specified. The bill would authorize the department to establish a reasonable licensing fee that is no more than the amount necessary to cover the cost of administering and enforcing the act. The bill would, except as specified, prohibit a youth transportation company from operating in California without a license and impose various requirements and restrictions on youth transportation companies licensed pursuant to these provisions, including, among other things, a requirement that they maintain written policies governing the safety and welfare of minors and a prohibition on using restraints unless it is necessary to prevent imminent, serious physical harm and less restrictive alternatives are not available. (Based on 03/25/2026 text)