

Human Services Legislative Update – September 2, 2014

The 2014 Legislative Session was adjourned on August 30, 2014. Below is a list of Human Services legislation Western Center is tracking and the status of these bills after today's gavel down. Jessica Bartholow and Mike Herald are Western Center's legislative advocates working on these issues. If Western Center has taken a position on a bill, it is noted.

CalFresh and Anti-Hunger Legislation

Heading to the Governor's Desk! [SB 270 \(Padilla\)](#) would encourage shoppers across California to use reusable bags by banning the use of single-use, plastic carryout bags at checkout stands and requiring a 10-cent charge for recycled paper bags and compostable bags. It would standardize the experience for nutrition assistance program recipients by requiring an exemption to the 10-cent charge for people paying with Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card and Women, Infant & Children (WIC) vouchers.

Position: Support

Heading to the Governor's Desk! [SB 1002 \(de León\)](#) would increase opportunities for County Human Services Agencies to align certification periods for Medi-Cal when applicants and recipients for CalFresh are eligible for both programs. It is co-sponsored by Western Center and the California Food Policy Advocates.

Position: Co-Sponsor & Support

Heading to the Governor's Desk! [AB 1930 \(Skinner\)](#) would reduce barriers to federal food assistance and academic success for low-income college students by establishing protocols for qualifying and verifying an exemption to the CalFresh student ineligibility. It co-sponsored by Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations.

Position: Sponsor & Support

DEAD! [AB 2115 \(Bradford\)](#) would add child nutrition and feeding programs to the list of resources that must be provided to CalFresh applicants when a child is present in the home. This bill is co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank and Western Center. Held on Suspense in Senate Appropriations.

Position: Co-Sponsor & Support

About Western Center on Law and Poverty

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