

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



March 12, 2001

All County Letter No. 12-01

To: All County Welfare Directors
All County Child Welfare Services
Program Managers
All County Fiscal Personnel

Reason for this Transmittal

- State Law Change
 Federal Law or Regulation
Change
 Court Order
 Clarification Requested by
One or More Counties
 Initiated by CDSS

Subject: Expansion of Rate Classification Levels for Wraparound Program
through Senate Bill 163 or the Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver
Demonstration Project's Wraparound Sub-Study.

Reference: Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18251 and 18254

The purpose of this letter is to notify counties that effective January 1, 2001, the target population for the Senate Bill 163 Wraparound Services Pilot and the Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration Project's Wraparound Sub-Study will be expanded.

Previously, the Wraparound Services Pilot and the IV-E Wraparound Sub-Study served only children and adolescents who were currently residing, or were at risk of being placed, in a group home licensed at a rate classification level of 12 through 14. Assembly Bill 2706 extends eligibility for these pilots to children who are currently residing, or at risk of being placed, in a group home licensed at a rate classification level of 10 or 11. If you are a Wraparound county, you may begin serving these children effective January 1, 2001. Your Wraparound county consultant will be contacting you with the specific information on how to update your Memorandum of Understanding to reflect this larger service population.

The reimbursement rates for this new population will be based on a rate of \$4,813.00, which is the average cost of rate classification levels (RCL) 10 to 11, minus the cost of any concurrent out-of-home placement, for eligible children. This rate reflects the recent rate changes outlined in All County Letter 00-64, issued by the Department on December 27, 2000. Counties will receive from the state 40% or \$1925.00 for each non-federally eligible child filling a RCL 10 & 11 Wraparound

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slot. The Wraparound counties' share of cost for a non-federally eligible child filling a RCL 10 & 11 Wraparound slot, is \$2888.00, which is 60% of the non-federally eligible rate. The rate for a federally eligible child filling a RCL 10 & 11 Wraparound slot, is cut by 51.25% resulting in a total reimbursement rate of \$2467.00. The state will provide \$938.00 or 40% of this adjusted rate and the Wraparound counties' share of cost is \$1408.00, which is 60% of the adjusted rate for federally eligible children.

If you have any program questions, please call the Child Welfare Services Bureau, Program Development Unit Manager, Bill Lamb, at (916) 445-2890. Title IV-E Demonstration counties should contact the Title IV-E Waiver Unit Manager, Greg Rose, at (916) 324-5809. If you have any questions regarding claiming, or the fiscal process in general, please contact Connie Hamilton, Fiscal Policy Analyst, at (916) 657-3438.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By

SYLVIA PIZZINI
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division

Attachment

BILL NUMBER: AB 2706 CHAPTERED
BILL TEXT

CHAPTER 259
FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE AUGUST 28, 2000
APPROVED BY GOVERNOR AUGUST 25, 2000
PASSED THE SENATE AUGUST 18, 2000
PASSED THE ASSEMBLY MAY 30, 2000
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 2000

INTRODUCED BY Assembly Member Cunneen

FEBRUARY 25, 2000

An act to amend Sections 18251 and 18254 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to public social services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2706, Cunneen. Wraparound programs.

Existing law creates the Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) program, under which a combination of federal, state, and county funds are used to provide reimbursement to families and facilities providing foster care to eligible children.

Existing law also requires each county to provide child welfare services.

Existing law also provides, until October 1, 2003, for the establishment in all counties, at the county's option and subject to the approval of the State Department of Social Services, a pilot project to continue the provision of intensive wraparound services, as defined, to eligible children in foster care or at imminent risk of this placement.

Existing law defines eligible child to include only children residing in, or who are at risk of residing in, foster care placements that provide specified levels of care.

This bill would change the definition of an eligible child to include children residing in, or who are at risk of residing in, foster placements that provide certain additional levels of care.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 18251 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

18251. As used in this chapter:

(a) "County" means each county participating in an individualized or "wrap-around" pilot project.

(b) "County placing agency" means a county welfare or probation department, or a county mental health department with respect to those children placed pursuant to Section 7572.5 of the Government Code.

(c) "Eligible child" means a child who is any of the following:

(1) A child who has been adjudicated as either a dependent or ward of the juvenile court pursuant to Section 300, 601, or 602 and who would be placed in a group home licensed by the department at a rate classification level of 10 or higher.

(2) A child who would be voluntarily placed in out-of-home care pursuant to Section 7572.5 of the Government Code.

(3) A child who is currently, or who would be, placed in a group

home licensed by the department at a rate classification level of 10 or higher.

(d) "Wrap-around services" means community-based intervention services that emphasize the strengths of the child and family and includes the delivery of coordinated, highly individualized unconditional services to address needs and achieve positive outcomes in their lives.

(e) "Service allocation slot" means a specified amount of funds available to the county to pay for an individualized intensive wraparound services package for an eligible child. A service allocation slot may be used for more than one child on a successive basis.

SEC. 2. Section 18254 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

18254. (a) Reimbursement rates for wraparound services, under this pilot project, shall be based on the following factors:

(1) The average cost of rate classification 10 to 11 in each county, minus the cost of any concurrent out-of-home placement, for children who are or would be placed in a rate level 10 or 11 group home.

(2) The average cost of rate classification 12 to 14 in each county, minus the cost of any concurrent out-of-home placement, for children who are or would be placed in a rate level 12 to 14 group home.

(b) The annual maximum limit on funding available for the pilot project authorized by this chapter shall be based on the average cost, determined pursuant to subdivision (a), for the number of service allocation slots assigned to each county.

(c) The department shall reimburse each county, for the purpose of providing intensive wraparound services, up to 100 percent of the state share of nonfederal funds, to be matched by each county's share of cost as established by law, and to the extent permitted by federal law, up to 100 percent of the federal funds allocated for group home placements of eligible children, at the rate authorized pursuant to subdivision (a).

(d) State and, to the extent permitted by federal law, federal foster care funds shall remain with the administrative authority of the county welfare department, which may enter into an interagency agreement to transfer those funds, and shall be used to provide intensive wraparound services.

(e) General Fund costs for the provision of benefits to eligible children pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 18251 at rates authorized by subdivision (a) through the pilot project authorized by this chapter shall not exceed the costs which would otherwise have been incurred had the eligible children been placed in a group home.