

June 28, 2017

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 17-59

TO: ALL COUNTY CHILD WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM MANAGERS
ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
ALL FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY DIRECTORS
ALL ADOPTION REGIONAL AND FIELD OFFICES
ALL TITLE IV-E AGREEMENT TRIBES

SUBJECT: ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 1911 (CHAPTER 637, STATUTES OF 2016) DUAL
STATUS MINORS

REFERENCE: [AB 1911 \(CHAPTER 637, STATUTES OF 2016\)](#); CALIFORNIA STATE
AUDITOR'S REPORT [2015-115](#); WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE (WIC)
SECTIONS [241.2](#), [300](#), [601](#) AND [602](#)

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to inform child welfare services (CWS) and probation agencies of AB 1911 (Chapter 637, Statutes of 2016) regarding dual status youth (minors involved in both the CWS and probation agencies). The AB 1911 required the Judicial Council to establish a committee of stakeholders which includes, but is not limited to: judges, probation officers, social workers, youth involved in both the child welfare system and the juvenile justice system, child welfare and juvenile justice attorneys, child welfare and juvenile justice advocates, education officials, representatives from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), county child welfare agencies, and county probation departments serving the needs of dependents or wards of the juvenile court. The committee convened in December 2016, February 2017, and May 2017. This committee is required to develop recommendations to facilitate, enhance, and track data outcomes for dual status youth and submit them in a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2018. The report is required to include recommendations regarding, but not limited to:

- A statewide common identifier to reconcile data across the CWS and juvenile justice systems;

- Standard definitions for dual status youth;
- Identified and defined outcomes for dual status youth such as recidivism, health, pregnancy, homelessness, employment and education;
- Established baselines and goals for outcomes;
- An assessment of costs and benefits to implement the committee's recommendations; and
- An assessment of whether a single case management system (Child Welfare Services/Case Management System [CWS/CMS] or CWS – New System) is needed to track dual status youth.

In addition, AB 1911 requires CDSS to implement a function in its case management system to allow CWS and probation agencies to identify and track dual status youth on or before January 1, 2019. Child Welfare Digital Services "CWDS" (a collaboration of California state and local government agencies) will be making modifications in the new CWS case management system known as the Child Welfare Services – New System (CWS-New System) to incorporate this new functionality.

In response to the California State Auditor's Report 2015-115, issued in February of 2016, temporary special project codes have been implemented. The CWS and probation agencies should use these new three special project codes within CWS/CMS to track and monitor dual status youth until the implementation of the New System. The new special project codes are described below and can be used the effective the date of this ACL.

New Special Project Codes:

"S-Dual Status"

A youth who is a dependent (pursuant to WIC section 300) and simultaneously a ward (pursuant to WIC sections 601/602) of the juvenile court. Use the date when jurisdiction is obtained by both entities.

"S-Dep 300 receiving Prob SRVCS"

A youth who is a dependent (pursuant to WIC section 300) and simultaneously receiving services from probation (i.e. a probation officer has been assigned to provide some level of youth oversight). The start date is the date the probation officer is assigned; the end date is the date when the probation officer is no longer assigned.

"S-Ward 601/602 receiving CWS"

A youth adjudicated a ward (pursuant to WIC sections 601/602) and who is simultaneously receiving services from CWS (i.e. a social worker has been assigned to provide some level of youth oversight). The start date is the date the social worker is assigned; the end date is the date the social worker is no longer assigned.

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If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in this letter, contact the Permanency Policy Bureau at (916) 657-1858 or at ConcurrentPlanningPolicyUnit@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

GREGORY E. ROSE
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division

c: County Welfare Directors Association
Chief Probation Officers of California
Judicial Council of California