



















CALIFORNIA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION



















United Ways of California



































June 28, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor, State of California State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: FY22-23 Child, Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) in AB 184/SB 184-SUPPORT

Dear Governor Newsom:

We, the undersigned organizations write on behalf of California local health departments, county social services agencies, county supervisors, their workforce and the children and families we serve to urge passage of AB 184 and SB 184 relating to the Child, Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP). We appreciate the tremendous vision this Administration has brought to CalAIM and the Administration's commitment to expand MediCal. We seek to align our efforts of what has worked in CHDP and the goals of CalAIM and stand firm in our resolve to ensure that there are no gaps in care nor decline in the quality of care provided to California's most vulnerable children.

We are deeply grateful to the Legislature for rejecting the Administration's proposal to sunset CHDP in 2023 and have been engaging to find a path forward that acknowledges the Administration's interests while honoring the concerns and experiences of the stakeholder community. To this end, we appreciate that the Legislature and Administration's budget agreement reflected in AB 184/SB 184 builds upon priorities to serve CHDP children and families originally submitted by advocates on June 17, 2022 that would:

- Make CHDP inoperative as of July 1, 2024 or the date certified by the Department of Health Care Services following completion of specific activities as detailed in AB 184/SB 184, whichever date is later.
- Require robust stakeholder engagement through a stakeholder engagement process starting October 2022 comprised of specific representatives from relevant statewide agencies, associations, Medi-Cal managed care plans, children's advocates and other subject matter experts as identified by the department to inform the department in the development and implementation of a transition plan and defined milestones to guide the transition of CHDP to other existing Medi-Cal delivery systems or services. We look forward to working with the Administration following passage of AB 184/SB 184 to ensure that the voices of affected regional stakeholders including local health departments, county welfare agencies, CHDP providers, CHDP families are represented in the process.

- Require DHCS to develop a transition plan and defined milestones to be implemented that at a minimum includes:
 - o A post transition oversight and monitoring plan for Medi-Cal children currently served through CHDP, including those in fee-for-service and foster youth.
 - A plan for how managed care plans will monitor providers serving children for adherence to Bright Futures guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics and EPSDT standards, including, but not limited to, requirements for site reviews, provider training and audits and coordination of care to needed services, such as to dental and behavioral health providers.
 - A plan to fund the administrative and services costs of the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care to meet statutory requirements.
 - An analysis and plan for retaining existing local CHDP positions through the exploration of new partnerships and roles, and/or through bolstering existing programs that can leverage CHDP expertise.
- Require DHCS to provide an update to the Legislature during 2023-24 budget hearings on the proposed transition plan and milestones towards transition

We request your leadership and urge your support of AB 184/SB 184 to ensure that any transition of CHDP is handled delicately, is appropriately timed, and prioritizes the needs of California's most vulnerable children.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Honorable Members, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee

Honorable Members, Assembly Budget Committee

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