

An act to amend Section 15204.35 of the Welfare and Institutions Code,
relating to CalWORKs.

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

SECTION 1. Section 15204.35 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

15204.35. (a) The State Department of Social Services shall work with representatives of county human services agencies and the County Welfare Directors Association of California to develop recommendations for revising the methodology used for development of the CalWORKs single allocation annual budget. As part of the process of developing these recommendations, the department shall consult with legislative staff, advocates, and organizations that represent county workers.

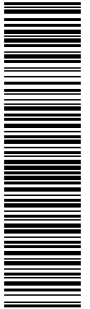
(b) (1) Recommendations for initial changes to the methodology for development of the CalWORKs single allocation for the 2018–19 fiscal year shall be made to the Legislature by January 10, 2018.

(2) Recommendations for additional changes to the methodology for the 2019–20 and subsequent fiscal years shall be made to the Legislature by October 1, 2018.

(c) The State Department of Social Services shall work with representatives of county human services agencies and the County Welfare Directors Association of California for purposes of continuing to develop the casework metrics used for the budgeting of funding for employment services in the CalWORKs single allocation and to develop the budgeting methodology for welfare-to-work direct services during the 2019–20 fiscal year. As part of the process of developing this budgeting methodology, the department shall consult with legislative staff, advocates, and organizations that represent county workers.

(d) The number of hours per case per month of case work time budgeted for intensive cases as defined pursuant to the budget methodology changes for the employment services component of the CalWORKs single allocation developed pursuant to this section shall be incrementally increased for each of the 2021–22 and 2022–23 fiscal years. Subject to an appropriation in the Budget Act of 2023, as of July 1, 2023, the number of hours per case per month of case work time budgeted for intensive cases shall again be incrementally increased, and in the 2024–25 fiscal year, effective July 1, 2024, it shall be 10 hours: increased.

(e) The State Department of Social Services, in consultation with representatives of county human services agencies and the County Welfare Directors Association of California, shall reconsider the costs of county operations for county administrative costs in the CalWORKs single allocation for the 2024–25 fiscal year and for every third fiscal year thereafter. The State Department of Social Services shall provide information to the legislative budget committees regarding this reconsideration and how it may impact county administrative costs as part of the budget proposed by either January 10 or May 14 of any year prior to the fiscal year for which this provision applies.



LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

Bill No.
as introduced, _____.
General Subject: CalWORKs: intensive case management: hours.

Existing law establishes the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, under which, through a combination of federal, state, and county funds, each county provides cash assistance and other benefits to qualified low-income families. Existing law declares the intent of the Legislature that the annual Budget Act appropriate state and federal funds in a single allocation to counties for the support of administrative activities undertaken by the counties to provide CalWORKs benefit payments, required work activities, and supportive services.

Existing law requires the State Department of Social Services to work with representatives of county human services agencies and the County Welfare Directors Association of California to develop recommendations for revising the methodology used for development of the CalWORKs single allocation annual budget. Under existing law, the number of hours per case per month of case work time budgeted for intensive cases for the employment services component of the CalWORKs single allocation is required to be incrementally increased for each of the 2021–22 and 2022–23 fiscal years.

Under existing law, subject to an appropriation in the Budget Act of 2023, as of July 1, 2023, the number of hours per case per month of case work time budgeted for intensive cases is required to again be incrementally increased, and in the 2024–25 fiscal year, effective July 1, 2024, it is required to be 10 hours.

This bill, for case work time budgeted for intensive cases, would remove the above-described increase to 10 hours per case per month in the 2024–25 fiscal year.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

