

Assembly Bill No. 371

Passed the Assembly September 10, 2015

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Passed the Senate September 9, 2015

Secretary of the Senate

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2015, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

An act to amend, repeal, and add Sections 11201, 11250, 11320.3, 11322.8, 11401, and 11450.16 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to public social services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 371, Mullin. CalWORKs Family Unity Act of 2015.

Existing law requires each county to provide cash assistance and other social services to needy families through the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program using federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families block grant program, state, and county funds. Existing law requires aid to be granted to a family with a related child under 18 years of age who has been deprived of parental support or care due to the unemployment, continued absence, death, incapacity, or incarceration of a parent. Existing law also provides, however, that a family receiving aid with a child who is considered to be deprived of parental support or care due to unemployment may continue to receive assistance regardless of the number of hours his or her parent works, if the family does not exceed the applicable gross or net income limits and is otherwise eligible for assistance. Existing law requires families to be grouped into assistance units for purposes of determining eligibility and computing the amount of CalWORKs aid to be paid.

This bill would, commencing July 1, 2016, instead require that aid be granted to a family with a related child who is under 18 years of age if the family meets applicable eligibility requirements, without regard to the absence or employment status of the parent. The bill would prohibit, however, an absent parent from being included in the family's assistance unit for purposes of determining eligibility or computing the amount of aid to be paid, as specified. To the extent that the bill would expand eligibility for the CalWORKs program, which is administered by counties, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Under existing law, a recipient of CalWORKs is required to participate in welfare-to-work activities for a specified number of hours each week as a condition of eligibility for aid. Existing law

exempts a person with a disability, as specified, from participation in welfare-to-work activities.

This bill would, commencing July 1, 2016, recast these provisions and would clarify that an adult in an assistance unit that includes 2 adults, one of whom is disabled, is required to participate in welfare-to-work activities for the same number of hours per week as an adult in an assistance unit that includes only one adult.

This bill would require the department to issue an all-county letter or similar instructions and to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill by July 1, 2018.

Existing law continuously appropriates moneys from the General Fund to defray a portion of county costs under the CalWORKs program.

This bill would instead provide that the continuous appropriation would not be made for purposes of implementing the bill.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the CalWORKs Family Unity Act of 2015.

SEC. 2. Section 11201 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

11201. For the purposes of this chapter, the following shall apply:

(a) “Unemployed parent” means a natural or adoptive parent with whom the child is living.

(b) A child for whom a parent is applying for assistance under this chapter shall be considered to be deprived of parental support or care due to the unemployment of his or her parent or parents when the parent has worked less than 100 hours in the preceding four weeks and meets the requirements concerning an unemployed parent in effect on August 21, 1996, as set forth in Section 233.100

of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations except for the provisions of subparagraph (i) to (v), inclusive, of paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of that section.

(c) A family receiving aid under this chapter with a child who is considered to be deprived of parental support or care due to unemployment may continue to receive assistance regardless of the number of hours his or her parent works provided the family does not exceed the applicable gross or net income limits and is otherwise eligible for assistance.

(d) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2016, and, as of January 1, 2017, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2017, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 3. Section 11201 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

11201. (a) For purposes of this chapter, “parent” means a natural or adoptive parent.

(b) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2016.

SEC. 4. Section 11250 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

11250. Aid, services, or both shall be granted under the provisions of this chapter, and subject to the regulations of the department, to families with related children under the age of 18 years, except as provided in Section 11253, in need thereof because they have been deprived of parental support or care due to:

(a) The death, physical or mental incapacity, or incarceration of a parent.

(b) The unemployment of a parent or parents.

(c) Continued absence of a parent from the home due to divorce, separation, desertion, or any other reason, except absence occasioned solely by reason of the performance of active duty in the uniformed services of the United States. “Continued absence” exists when the nature of the absence is such as either to interrupt or to terminate the parent’s functioning as a provider of maintenance, physical care, or guidance for the child, and the known or indefinite duration of the absence precludes counting on the parent’s performance of the function of planning for the present support or care of the child. If these conditions exist, the parent may be absent for any reason, and may have left only recently or some time previously.

(d) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2016, and, as of January 1, 2017, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2017, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 5. Section 11250 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

11250. (a) Aid, services, or both shall be granted under this chapter, and subject to the regulations of the department, to families with related children under 18 years of age, except as provided in Section 11253, in need thereof, if the family meets the eligibility requirements specified in this chapter.

(b) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2016.

SEC. 6. Section 11320.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

11320.3. (a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (b) or if otherwise exempt, every individual, as a condition of eligibility for aid under this chapter, shall participate in welfare-to-work activities under this article.

(2) Individuals eligible under Section 11331.5 shall be required to participate in the Cal-Learn Program under Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 11331) during the time that article is operative, in lieu of the welfare-to-work requirements, and subdivision (b) shall not apply to that individual.

(b) The following individuals shall not be required to participate for so long as the condition continues to exist:

(1) An individual under 16 years of age.

(2) (A) A child attending an elementary, secondary, vocational, or technical school on a full-time basis.

(B) A person who is 16 or 17 years of age, or a person described in subdivision (d) who loses this exemption, shall not requalify for the exemption by attending school as a required activity under this article.

(C) Notwithstanding subparagraph (B), a person who is 16 or 17 years of age who has obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent and is enrolled or is planning to enroll in a postsecondary education, vocational, or technical school training program shall also not be required to participate for so long as the condition continues to exist.

(D) For purposes of subparagraph (C), a person shall be deemed to be planning to enroll in a postsecondary education, vocational,

or technical school training program if he or she, or his or her parent, acting on his or her behalf, submits a written statement expressing his or her intent to enroll in such a program for the following term. The exemption from participation shall not continue beyond the beginning of the term, unless verification of enrollment is provided or obtained by the county.

(3) An individual who meets either of the following conditions:

(A) The individual is disabled as determined by a doctor's verification that the disability is expected to last at least 30 days and that it significantly impairs the recipient's ability to be regularly employed or participate in welfare-to-work activities, provided that the individual is actively seeking appropriate medical treatment.

(B) The individual is of advanced age.

(4) A nonparent caretaker relative who has primary responsibility for providing care for a child and is either caring for a child who is a dependent or ward of the court or caring for a child in a case in which a county determines the child is at risk of placement in foster care, and the county determines that the caretaking responsibilities are beyond those considered normal day-to-day parenting responsibilities such that they impair the caretaker relative's ability to be regularly employed or to participate in welfare-to-work activities.

(5) An individual whose presence in the home is required because of illness or incapacity of another member of the household and whose caretaking responsibilities impair the recipient's ability to be regularly employed or to participate in welfare-to-work activities.

(6) A parent or other relative who meets the criteria in subparagraph (A) or (B).

(A) (i) The parent or other relative has primary responsibility for personally providing care to a child six months of age or under, except that, on a case-by-case basis, and based on criteria developed by the county, this period may be reduced to the first 12 weeks after the birth or adoption of the child, or increased to the first 12 months after the birth or adoption of the child. An individual may be exempt only once under this clause.

(ii) An individual who received an exemption pursuant to clause (i) shall be exempt for a period of 12 weeks, upon the birth or adoption of any subsequent children, except that this period may

be extended on a case-by-case basis to six months, based on criteria developed by the county.

(iii) In making the determination to extend the period of exception under clause (i) or (ii), the following may be considered:

- (I) The availability of child care.
- (II) Local labor market conditions.
- (III) Other factors determined by the county.

(iv) Effective January 1, 2013, the parent or other relative has primary responsibility for personally providing care to one child from birth to 23 months, inclusive. The exemption provided for under this clause shall be available in addition to any other exemption provided for under this subparagraph. An individual may be exempt only once under this clause.

(B) In a family eligible for aid under this chapter due to the unemployment of the principal wage earner, the exemption criteria contained in subparagraph (A) shall be applied to only one parent.

(7) A parent or other relative who has primary responsibility for personally providing care to one child who is from 12 to 23 months of age, inclusive, or two or more children who are under six years of age.

(8) A woman who is pregnant and for whom it has been medically verified that the pregnancy impairs her ability to be regularly employed or participate in welfare-to-work activities or the county has determined that, at that time, participation will not readily lead to employment or that a training activity is not appropriate. If a pregnant woman is unable to secure this medical verification, but is otherwise eligible for an exemption from welfare-to-work requirements under this section, including good cause for temporary illness related to the pregnancy, she shall be exempt from participation.

(c) Any individual not required to participate may choose to participate voluntarily under this article, and end that participation at any time without loss of eligibility for aid under this chapter, if his or her status has not changed in a way that would require participation.

(d) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a custodial parent who is under 20 years of age and who has not earned a high school diploma or its equivalent, and who is not exempt or whose only basis for exemption is paragraph (1), (2), (5), (6), (7), or (8) of subdivision (b), shall be required to participate solely for the

purpose of earning a high school diploma or its equivalent. During the time that Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 11331) is operative, this subdivision shall only apply to a custodial parent who is 19 years of age.

(2) Section 11325.25 shall apply to a custodial parent who is 18 or 19 years of age and who is required to participate under this article.

(e) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (d), the county may determine that participation in education activities for the purpose of earning a high school diploma or equivalent is inappropriate for an 18 or 19 year old custodial parent only if that parent is reassigned pursuant to an evaluation under Section 11325.25, or, at appraisal is already in an educational or vocational training program that is approvable as a self-initiated program as specified in Section 11325.23. If that determination is made, the parent shall be allowed to continue participation in the self-initiated program subject to Section 11325.23. During the time that Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 11331) is operative, this subdivision shall only apply to a custodial parent who is 19 years of age.

(f) A recipient shall be excused from participation for good cause when the county has determined there is a condition or other circumstance that temporarily prevents or significantly impairs the recipient's ability to be regularly employed or to participate in welfare-to-work activities. The county welfare department shall review the good cause determination for its continuing appropriateness in accordance with the projected length of the condition, or circumstance, but not less than every three months. The recipient shall cooperate with the county welfare department and provide information, including written documentation, as required to complete the review. Conditions that may be considered good cause include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Lack of necessary supportive services.

(2) In accordance with Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 11495), the applicant or recipient is a victim of domestic violence, but only if participation under this article is detrimental to or unfairly penalizes that individual or his or her family.

(3) Licensed or license-exempt child care for a child 10 years of age or younger is not reasonably available during the individual's hours of training or employment including commuting time, or arrangements for child care have broken down or have

been interrupted, or child care is needed for a child who meets the criteria of subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 11323.2, but who is not included in the assistance unit. For purposes of this paragraph, “reasonable availability” means child care that is commonly available in the recipient’s community to a person who is not receiving aid and that is in conformity with the requirements of Public Law 104-193. The choices of child care shall meet either licensing requirements or the requirements of Section 11324. This good cause criterion shall include the unavailability of suitable special needs child care for children with identified special needs, including, but not limited to, disabilities or chronic illnesses.

(g) (1) Paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) shall be implemented notwithstanding Sections 11322.4, 11322.7, 11325.6, and 11327, and shall become inoperative on January 1, 2013.

(2) The State Department of Social Services, in consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association of California, and advocates, shall develop a process to assist clients with reengagement in welfare-to-work activities, pursuant to subdivision (h). Reengagement activities may include notifying clients of the expiration of exemptions, reassessments, and identifying necessary supportive services.

(h) (1) A recipient who was not required to participate in welfare-to-work activities on December 31, 2012, because, in accordance with paragraph (7) of subdivision (b), he or she is a parent or other relative who has primary responsibility for personally providing care to one child who is from 12 to 23 months of age, inclusive, or two or more children who are under six years of age shall not be required to participate until the county welfare department reengages the recipient in welfare-to-work activities.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, reengagement in welfare-to-work activities shall include the development of a welfare-to-work plan in accordance with Section 11325.21 and the provision of necessary supportive services pursuant to Section 11323.2.

(3) County welfare departments shall reengage all recipients described in paragraph (1) by January 1, 2015, unless the recipient is otherwise eligible for an exemption under subdivision (b).

(4) A recipient reengaged in accordance with this subdivision who has received assistance under this chapter, or from any state

pursuant to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (Part A (commencing with Section 401) of Title IV of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 601 et seq.)), may continue in a welfare-to-work plan that meets the requirements of Section 11322.6 for a cumulative period of 24 months commencing the first day of the first month after he or she is reengaged, unless or until he or she exceeds the 48-month time limitation described in Section 11454.

(5) All months of assistance described in paragraph (4) prior to the reengagement of the recipient shall not be applied to the 24-month limitation described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 11322.85.

(i) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2016, and, as of January 1, 2017, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2017, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 7. Section 11320.3 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

11320.3. (a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (b) or if otherwise exempt, every individual, as a condition of eligibility for aid under this chapter, shall participate in welfare-to-work activities under this article.

(2) Individuals eligible under Section 11331.5 shall be required to participate in the Cal-Learn Program under Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 11331) during the time that article is operative, in lieu of the welfare-to-work requirements, and subdivision (b) shall not apply to that individual.

(b) The following individuals shall not be required to participate for so long as the condition continues to exist:

(1) An individual under 16 years of age.

(2) (A) A child attending an elementary, secondary, vocational, or technical school on a full-time basis.

(B) A person who is 16 or 17 years of age, or a person described in subdivision (d) who loses this exemption, shall not requalify for the exemption by attending school as a required activity under this article.

(C) Notwithstanding subparagraph (B), a person who is 16 or 17 years of age who has obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent and is enrolled or is planning to enroll in a postsecondary education, vocational, or technical school training

program shall also not be required to participate for so long as the condition continues to exist.

(D) For purposes of subparagraph (C), a person shall be deemed to be planning to enroll in a postsecondary education, vocational, or technical school training program if he or she, or his or her parent, acting on his or her behalf, submits a written statement expressing his or her intent to enroll in such a program for the following term. The exemption from participation shall not continue beyond the beginning of the term, unless verification of enrollment is provided or obtained by the county.

(3) An individual who meets either of the following conditions:

(A) The individual is disabled as determined by a doctor's verification that the disability is expected to last at least 30 days and that it significantly impairs the recipient's ability to be regularly employed or participate in welfare-to-work activities, provided that the individual is actively seeking appropriate medical treatment.

(B) The individual is of advanced age.

(4) A nonparent caretaker relative who has primary responsibility for providing care for a child and is either caring for a child who is a dependent or ward of the court or caring for a child in a case in which a county determines the child is at risk of placement in foster care, and the county determines that the caretaking responsibilities are beyond those considered normal day-to-day parenting responsibilities such that they impair the caretaker relative's ability to be regularly employed or to participate in welfare-to-work activities.

(5) An individual whose presence in the home is required because of illness or incapacity of another member of the household and whose caretaking responsibilities impair the recipient's ability to be regularly employed or to participate in welfare-to-work activities.

(6) A parent or other relative who meets the criteria in subparagraph (A) or (B).

(A) (i) The parent or other relative has primary responsibility for personally providing care to a child six months of age or under, except that, on a case-by-case basis, and based on criteria developed by the county, this period may be reduced to the first 12 weeks after the birth or adoption of the child, or increased to

the first 12 months after the birth or adoption of the child. An individual may be exempt only once under this clause.

(ii) An individual who received an exemption pursuant to clause (i) shall be exempt for a period of 12 weeks, upon the birth or adoption of any subsequent children, except that this period may be extended on a case-by-case basis to six months, based on criteria developed by the county.

(iii) In making the determination to extend the period of exception under clause (i) or (ii), the following may be considered:

- (I) The availability of child care.
- (II) Local labor market conditions.
- (III) Other factors determined by the county.

(iv) The parent or other relative has primary responsibility for personally providing care to one child from birth to 23 months, inclusive. The exemption provided for under this clause shall be available in addition to any other exemption provided for under this subparagraph. An individual may be exempt only once under this clause.

(B) In a family eligible for aid under this chapter, the exemption criteria contained in subparagraph (A) shall be applied to only one parent.

(7) A parent or other relative who has primary responsibility for personally providing care to one child who is from 12 to 23 months of age, inclusive, or two or more children who are under six years of age.

(8) A woman who is pregnant and for whom it has been medically verified that the pregnancy impairs her ability to be regularly employed or participate in welfare-to-work activities or the county has determined that, at that time, participation will not readily lead to employment or that a training activity is not appropriate. If a pregnant woman is unable to secure this medical verification, but is otherwise eligible for an exemption from welfare-to-work requirements under this section, including good cause for temporary illness related to the pregnancy, she shall be exempt from participation.

(c) Any individual not required to participate may choose to participate voluntarily under this article, and end that participation at any time without loss of eligibility for aid under this chapter, if his or her status has not changed in a way that would require participation.

(d) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a custodial parent who is under 20 years of age and who has not earned a high school diploma or its equivalent, and who is not exempt or whose only basis for exemption is paragraph (1), (2), (5), (6), (7), or (8) of subdivision (b), shall be required to participate solely for the purpose of earning a high school diploma or its equivalent. During the time that Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 11331) is operative, this subdivision shall only apply to a custodial parent who is 19 years of age.

(2) Section 11325.25 shall apply to a custodial parent who is 18 or 19 years of age and who is required to participate under this article.

(e) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (d), the county may determine that participation in education activities for the purpose of earning a high school diploma or equivalent is inappropriate for an 18 or 19 year old custodial parent only if that parent is reassigned pursuant to an evaluation under Section 11325.25, or, at the time of appraisal, is already in an educational or vocational training program that is approvable as a self-initiated program as specified in Section 11325.23. If that determination is made, the parent shall be allowed to continue participation in the self-initiated program subject to Section 11325.23. During the time that Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 11331) is operative, this subdivision shall only apply to a custodial parent who is 19 years of age.

(f) A recipient shall be excused from participation for good cause when the county has determined there is a condition or other circumstance that temporarily prevents or significantly impairs the recipient's ability to be regularly employed or to participate in welfare-to-work activities. The county welfare department shall review the good cause determination for its continuing appropriateness in accordance with the projected length of the condition, or circumstance, but not less than every three months. The recipient shall cooperate with the county welfare department and provide information, including written documentation, as required to complete the review. Conditions that may be considered good cause include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Lack of necessary supportive services.

(2) In accordance with Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 11495), the applicant or recipient is a victim of domestic violence,

but only if participation under this article is detrimental to or unfairly penalizes that individual or his or her family.

(3) Licensed or license-exempt child care for a child 10 years of age or younger is not reasonably available during the individual's hours of training or employment including commuting time, or arrangements for child care have broken down or have been interrupted, or child care is needed for a child who meets the criteria of subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 11323.2, but who is not included in the assistance unit. For purposes of this paragraph, "reasonable availability" means child care that is commonly available in the recipient's community to a person who is not receiving aid and that is in conformity with the requirements of Public Law 104-193. The choices of child care shall meet either licensing requirements or the requirements of Section 11324. This good cause criterion shall include the unavailability of suitable special needs child care for children with identified special needs, including, but not limited to, disabilities or chronic illnesses.

(g) (1) Paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) shall be implemented notwithstanding Sections 11322.4, 11322.7, 11325.6, and 11327, and shall become inoperative on January 1, 2013.

(2) The State Department of Social Services, in consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association of California, and advocates, shall develop a process to assist clients with reengagement in welfare-to-work activities, pursuant to subdivision (h). Reengagement activities may include notifying clients of the expiration of exemptions, reassessments, and identifying necessary supportive services.

(h) (1) A recipient who was not required to participate in welfare-to-work activities on December 31, 2012, because, in accordance with paragraph (7) of subdivision (b), he or she is a parent or other relative who has primary responsibility for personally providing care to one child who is from 12 to 23 months of age, inclusive, or two or more children who are under six years of age shall not be required to participate until the county welfare department reengages the recipient in welfare-to-work activities.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, reengagement in welfare-to-work activities shall include the development of a welfare-to-work plan in accordance with Section 11325.21 and

the provision of necessary supportive services pursuant to Section 11323.2.

(3) County welfare departments shall reengage all recipients described in paragraph (1) by January 1, 2015, unless the recipient is otherwise eligible for an exemption under subdivision (b).

(4) A recipient reengaged in accordance with this subdivision who has received assistance under this chapter, or from any state pursuant to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (Part A (commencing with Section 401) of Title IV of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 601 et seq.)), may continue in a welfare-to-work plan that meets the requirements of Section 11322.6 for a cumulative period of 24 months commencing the first day of the first month after he or she is reengaged, unless or until he or she exceeds the 48-month time limitation described in Section 11454.

(5) All months of assistance described in paragraph (4) prior to the reengagement of the recipient shall not be applied to the 24-month limitation described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 11322.85.

(i) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2016.

SEC. 8. Section 11322.8 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

11322.8. (a) For a recipient required to participate in accordance with paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 11322.85, unless the recipient is otherwise exempt, the following shall apply:

(1) (A) An adult recipient in a one-parent assistance unit that does not include a child under six years of age shall participate in welfare-to-work activities for an average of at least 30 hours per week during the month.

(B) An adult recipient in a one-parent assistance unit that includes a child under six years of age shall participate in welfare-to-work activities for an average of at least 20 hours per week during the month.

(2) An adult recipient who is an unemployed parent, as defined in Section 11201, shall participate for an average of at least 35 hours of welfare-to-work activities per week during the month. However, both parents in a two-parent assistance unit may contribute to the 35 hours.

(b) For a recipient required to participate in accordance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 11322.85, the following shall apply:

(1) Unless otherwise exempt, an adult recipient in a one-parent assistance unit shall participate in welfare-to-work activities for an average of at least 30 hours per week during the month, subject to the special rules and limitations described in Section 607(c)(1)(A) of Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2013.

(2) Unless otherwise exempt, an adult recipient in a one-parent assistance unit that includes a child under six years of age shall participate in welfare-to-work activities for an average of at least 20 hours per week during the month, as described in Section 607(c)(2)(B) of Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2013.

(3) Unless otherwise exempt, an adult recipient who is an unemployed parent, as defined in Section 11201, shall participate in welfare-to-work activities for an average of at least 35 hours per week during the month, subject to the special rules and limitations described in Section 607(c)(1)(B) of Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2013.

(c) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2016, and, as of January 1, 2017, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2017, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 9. Section 11322.8 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

11322.8. (a) An adult recipient required to participate in accordance with paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 11322.85, unless otherwise exempt, shall participate in welfare-to-work activities for the following number of hours per week during the month:

(1) An average of at least 30 hours per week, if the assistance unit includes either of the following but does not include a child under six years of age:

(A) One adult.

(B) Two adults, one of whom is disabled as defined in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 11320.3.

(2) An average of at least 20 hours per week, if the assistance unit includes a child under six years of age and either of the following:

(A) One adult.

(B) Two adults, one of whom is disabled as defined in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 11320.3.

(3) An average of at least 20 hours per week, if the assistance unit consists only of a pregnant woman.

(4) An average of at least 35 hours per week if the assistance unit includes two adults, except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2). However, both adults may contribute to the 35 hours.

(b) An adult recipient required to participate in accordance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 11322.85, unless otherwise exempt, shall participate in welfare-to-work activities for the following number of hours per week during the month:

(1) An average of at least 30 hours per week, subject to the special rules and limitations described in Section 607(c)(1)(A) of Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2013, if the assistance unit consists of only a pregnant woman, or includes one of the following but does not include a child under six years of age:

(A) One adult.

(B) Two adults, one of whom is disabled as defined in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 11320.3.

(2) An average of at least 20 hours per week, as described in Section 607(c)(2)(B) of Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2013, if the assistance unit includes only one adult and a child under six years of age.

(3) An average of at least 35 hours per week if the assistance unit includes two adults, except as provided in paragraph (1) and subject to the special rules and limitations described in Section 607(c)(1)(B) of Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2013.

(c) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2016.

SEC. 10. Section 11401 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

11401. Aid in the form of AFDC-FC shall be provided under this chapter on behalf of any child under 18 years of age, and, on

and after January 1, 2012, to any nonminor dependent who meets the conditions of any of the following subdivisions:

(a) The child has been relinquished, for purposes of adoption, to a licensed adoption agency, or the department, or the parental rights of either or both of his or her parents have been terminated after an action under the Family Code has been brought by a licensed adoption agency or the department, provided that the licensed adoption agency or the department, if responsible for placement and care, provides to those children all services as required by the department to children in foster care.

(b) The child has been removed from the physical custody of his or her parent, relative, or guardian as a result of a voluntary placement agreement or a judicial determination that continuance in the home would be contrary to the child's welfare and that, if the child was placed in foster care, reasonable efforts were made, consistent with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 16500) of Part 4, to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from his or her home and to make it possible for the child to return to his or her home, and any of the following applies:

(1) The child has been adjudged a dependent child of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Section 300.

(2) The child has been adjudged a ward of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Sections 601 and 602, or, on or after January 1, 2012, the nonminor is under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court pursuant to Section 450.

(3) The child has been detained under a court order, pursuant to Section 319 or 636, that remains in effect.

(4) The child's or nonminor's dependency jurisdiction, or transition jurisdiction pursuant to Section 450, has resumed pursuant to Section 387, or subdivision (a) or (e) of Section 388.

(c) The child has been voluntarily placed by his or her parent or guardian pursuant to Section 11401.1.

(d) The child is living in the home of a nonrelated legal guardian.

(e) On and after January 1, 2012, the child is a nonminor dependent who is placed pursuant to a mutual agreement as set forth in subdivision (u) of Section 11400, under the placement and care responsibility of the county child welfare services department, an Indian tribe that entered into an agreement pursuant to Section 10553.1, or the county probation department, or the child is a

nonminor dependent reentering foster care placement pursuant to a voluntary agreement, as set forth in subdivision (z) of Section 11400.

(f) The child has been placed in foster care under the federal Indian Child Welfare Act. Sections 11402, 11404, and 11405 shall not be construed as limiting payments to Indian children, as defined in the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, placed in accordance with that act.

(g) To be eligible for federal financial participation, the conditions described in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) shall be satisfied:

(1) (A) The child meets the conditions of subdivision (b).

(B) The child has been deprived of parental support or care for any of the reasons set forth in Section 11250.

(C) The child has been removed from the home of a relative as defined in Section 233.90(c)(1) of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended.

(D) The requirements of Sections 671 and 672 of Title 42 of the United States Code, as amended, have been met.

(2) (A) The child meets the requirements of subdivision (h).

(B) The requirements of Sections 671 and 672 of Title 42 of the United States Code, as amended, have been met.

(C) This paragraph shall be implemented only if federal financial participation is available for the children described in this paragraph.

(3) (A) The child has been removed from the custody of his or her parent, relative, or guardian as a result of a voluntary placement agreement or a judicial determination that continuance in the home would be contrary to the child's welfare and that, if the child was placed in foster care, reasonable efforts were made, consistent with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 16500) of Part 4, to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from his or her home and to make it possible for the child to return to his or her home, or the child is a nonminor dependent who satisfies the removal criteria in Section 472(a)(2)(A)(i) of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 672 (a)(2)(A)(i)) and agrees to the placement and care responsibility of the placing agency by signing the voluntary reentry agreement, as set forth in subdivision (z) of Section 11400, and any of the following applies:

(i) The child has been adjudged a dependent child of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Section 300.

(ii) The child has been adjudged a ward of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Sections 601 and 602 or, on or after January 1, 2012, the nonminor is under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court, pursuant to Section 450.

(iii) The child has been detained under a court order, pursuant to Section 319 or 636, that remains in effect.

(iv) The child's or nonminor's dependency jurisdiction, or transition jurisdiction pursuant to Section 450, has resumed pursuant to Section 387, or subdivision (a) or (e) of Section 388.

(B) The child has been placed in an eligible foster care placement, as set forth in Section 11402.

(C) The requirements of Sections 671 and 672 of Title 42 of the United States Code have been satisfied.

(D) This paragraph shall be implemented only if federal financial participation is available for the children described in this paragraph.

(4) With respect to a nonminor dependent, in addition to meeting the conditions specified in paragraph (1), the requirements of Section 675(8)(B) of Title 42 of the United States Code have been satisfied. With respect to a former nonminor dependent who reenters foster care placement by signing the voluntary reentry agreement, as set forth in subdivision (z) of Section 11400, the requirements for AFDC-FC eligibility of Section 672(a)(3)(A) of Title 42 of the United States Code are satisfied based on the nonminor's status as a child-only case, without regard to the parents, legal guardians, or others in the assistance unit in the home from which the nonminor was originally removed.

(h) The child meets all of the following conditions:

(1) The child has been adjudged to be a dependent child or ward of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described in Section 300, 601, or 602.

(2) The child's parent also has been adjudged to be a dependent child or nonminor dependent of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Section 300, 450, 601, or 602 and is receiving benefits under this chapter.

(3) The child is placed in the same licensed or approved foster care facility in which his or her parent is placed and the child's parent is receiving reunification services with respect to that child.

(i) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2016, and, as of January 1, 2017, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2017, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 11. Section 11401 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

11401. Aid in the form of AFDC-FC shall be provided under this chapter on behalf of any child under 18 years of age, and, on and after January 1, 2012, to any nonminor dependent who meets the conditions of any of the following subdivisions:

(a) The child has been relinquished, for purposes of adoption, to a licensed adoption agency, or the department, or the parental rights of either or both of his or her parents have been terminated after an action under the Family Code has been brought by a licensed adoption agency or the department, provided that the licensed adoption agency or the department, if responsible for placement and care, provides to those children all services as required by the department to children in foster care.

(b) The child has been removed from the physical custody of his or her parent, relative, or guardian as a result of a voluntary placement agreement or a judicial determination that continuance in the home would be contrary to the child's welfare and that, if the child was placed in foster care, reasonable efforts were made, consistent with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 16500) of Part 4, to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from his or her home and to make it possible for the child to return to his or her home, and any of the following applies:

(1) The child has been adjudged a dependent child of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Section 300.

(2) The child has been adjudged a ward of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Sections 601 and 602, or, on or after January 1, 2012, the nonminor is under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court pursuant to Section 450.

(3) The child has been detained under a court order, pursuant to Section 319 or 636, that remains in effect.

(4) The child's or nonminor's dependency jurisdiction, or transition jurisdiction pursuant to Section 450, has resumed pursuant to Section 387, or subdivision (a) or (e) of Section 388.

(c) The child has been voluntarily placed by his or her parent or guardian pursuant to Section 11401.1.

(d) The child is living in the home of a nonrelated legal guardian.

(e) On and after January 1, 2012, the child is a nonminor dependent who is placed pursuant to a mutual agreement as set forth in subdivision (u) of Section 11400, under the placement and care responsibility of the county child welfare services department, an Indian tribe that entered into an agreement pursuant to Section 10553.1, or the county probation department, or the child is a nonminor dependent reentering foster care placement pursuant to a voluntary reentry agreement, as set forth in subdivision (z) of Section 11400.

(f) The child has been placed in foster care under the federal Indian Child Welfare Act. Sections 11402, 11404, and 11405 shall not be construed as limiting payments to Indian children, as defined in the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, placed in accordance with that act.

(g) To be eligible for federal financial participation, the conditions described in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) shall be satisfied:

(1) (A) The child meets the conditions of subdivision (b).

(B) The child has been deprived of parental support or care for any of the reasons set forth in Section 233.90 (c)(1) of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(C) The child has been removed from the home of a relative as defined in Section 233.90(c)(1) of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended.

(D) The requirements of Sections 671 and 672 of Title 42 of the United States Code, as amended, have been met.

(2) (A) The child meets the requirements of subdivision (h).

(B) The requirements of Sections 671 and 672 of Title 42 of the United States Code, as amended, have been met.

(C) This paragraph shall be implemented only if federal financial participation is available for the children described in this paragraph.

(3) (A) The child has been removed from the custody of his or her parent, relative, or guardian as a result of a voluntary placement

agreement or a judicial determination that continuance in the home would be contrary to the child's welfare and that, if the child was placed in foster care, reasonable efforts were made, consistent with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 16500) of Part 4, to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from his or her home and to make it possible for the child to return to his or her home, or the child is a nonminor dependent who satisfies the removal criteria in Section 472(a)(2)(A)(i) of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 672 (a)(2)(A)(i)) and agrees to the placement and care responsibility of the placing agency by signing the voluntary reentry agreement, as set forth in subdivision (z) of Section 11400, and any of the following applies:

(i) The child has been adjudged a dependent child of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Section 300.

(ii) The child has been adjudged a ward of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Sections 601 and 602 or, on or after January 1, 2012, the nonminor is under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court, pursuant to Section 450.

(iii) The child has been detained under a court order, pursuant to Section 319 or 636, that remains in effect.

(iv) The child's or nonminor's dependency jurisdiction, or transition jurisdiction pursuant to Section 450, has resumed pursuant to Section 387, or subdivision (a) or (e) of Section 388.

(B) The child has been placed in an eligible foster care placement, as set forth in Section 11402.

(C) The requirements of Sections 671 and 672 of Title 42 of the United States Code have been satisfied.

(D) This paragraph shall be implemented only if federal financial participation is available for the children described in this paragraph.

(4) With respect to a nonminor dependent, in addition to meeting the conditions specified in paragraph (1), the requirements of Section 675(8)(B) of Title 42 of the United States Code have been satisfied. With respect to a former nonminor dependent who reenters foster care placement by signing the voluntary reentry agreement, as set forth in subdivision (z) of Section 11400, the requirements for AFDC-FC eligibility of Section 672(a)(3)(A) of Title 42 of the United States Code are satisfied based on the nonminor's status as a child-only case, without regard to the

parents, legal guardians, or others in the assistance unit in the home from which the nonminor was originally removed.

(h) The child meets all of the following conditions:

(1) The child has been adjudged to be a dependent child or ward of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described in Section 300, 601, or 602.

(2) The child's parent also has been adjudged to be a dependent child or nonminor dependent of the court on the grounds that he or she is a person described by Section 300, 450, 601, or 602 and is receiving benefits under this chapter.

(3) The child is placed in the same licensed or approved foster care facility in which his or her parent is placed and the child's parent is receiving reunification services with respect to that child.

(i) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2016.

SEC. 12. Section 11450.16 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

11450.16. (a) For purposes of determining eligibility under this chapter, and for computing the amount of aid payment under Section 11450, families shall be grouped into assistance units.

(b) Every assistance unit shall include at least one of the following persons:

(1) One of each of the following:

(A) An eligible child.

(B) The caretaker relative of an otherwise eligible child who is not receiving aid under Section 11250 because that child is receiving benefits under Title XVI of the Social Security Act (Subchapter 16 (commencing with Section 1381) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code), or Kin-GAP payments under Section 11364 or 11387, or foster care payments under Section 11461.

(2) A pregnant woman who is eligible for payments under subdivision (c) of Section 11450.

(c) Every assistance unit shall, in addition to the requirements of subdivision (b), include the eligible parents of the eligible child and the eligible siblings, including half-siblings, of the eligible child when those persons reside in the same home as the eligible child. This subdivision shall not apply to any convicted offender who is permitted to reside at the home of the eligible child as part of a court-imposed sentence and who is considered an absent parent under Section 11250.

(d) An assistance unit may, at the option of the family comprising the assistance unit, also include the nonparent caretaker relative of the eligible child, the spouse of the parent of the eligible child, otherwise eligible nonsibling children in the care of the caretaker relative of the eligible child, and the alternatively sentenced offender parent exempted under subdivision (c).

(e) If two or more assistance units reside in the same home, they shall be combined into one assistance unit when any of the following circumstances occurs:

(1) There is a common caretaker relative for the eligible children.

(2) One caretaker relative marries another caretaker relative.

(3) Two caretaker relatives are the parents of an eligible child.

(f) For purposes of this section, “caretaker relative” means the parent or other relative, as defined by regulations adopted by the department, who exercises responsibility and control of a child.

(g) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2016, and, as of January 1, 2017, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2017, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 13. Section 11450.16 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

11450.16. (a) For purposes of determining eligibility under this chapter, and for computing the amount of aid payment under Section 11450, families shall be grouped into assistance units.

(b) Every assistance unit shall include at least one of the following persons:

(1) One of each of the following:

(A) An eligible child.

(B) The caretaker relative of an otherwise eligible child who is not receiving aid under Section 11250 because that child is receiving benefits under Title XVI of the Social Security Act (Subchapter 16 (commencing with Section 1381) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code), or Kin-GAP payments under Section 11364 or 11387, or foster care payments under Section 11461.

(2) A pregnant woman who is eligible for payments under subdivision (c) of Section 11450.

(c) Every assistance unit shall, in addition to the requirements of subdivision (b), include the eligible parents of the eligible child

and the eligible siblings, including half-siblings, of the eligible child when those persons reside in the same home as the eligible child. This subdivision shall not apply to any convicted offender who is permitted to reside at the home of the eligible child as part of a court-imposed sentence and who is considered an absent parent under subdivision (d).

(d) A parent shall not be included in the assistance unit if he or she is absent from the home due to divorce, separation, desertion, or any other reason, if his or her absence interrupts or terminates the parent's functioning as a provider of maintenance, physical care, or guidance for the child, and the known or indefinite duration of the absence precludes counting on the parent's performance of the function of planning for the present support or care of the child. If these conditions exist, the parent may be absent for any reason, and may have left only recently or some time previously.

(e) An assistance unit may, at the option of the family comprising the assistance unit, also include the nonparent caretaker relative of the eligible child, the spouse of the parent of the eligible child, otherwise eligible nonsibling children in the care of the caretaker relative of the eligible child, and the alternatively sentenced offender parent exempted under subdivision (c).

(f) If two or more assistance units reside in the same home, they shall be combined into one assistance unit when any of the following circumstances occurs:

(1) There is a common caretaker relative for the eligible children.

(2) One caretaker relative marries another caretaker relative.

(3) Two caretaker relatives are the parents of an eligible child.

(g) For purposes of this section, "caretaker relative" means the parent or other relative, as defined by regulations adopted by the department, who exercises responsibility and control of a child.

(h) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2016.

SEC. 14. (a) Notwithstanding the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), the State Department of Social Services shall implement this act through an all-county letter or similar instructions from the director.

(b) The department shall adopt regulations as necessary to implement this act no later than July 1, 2018.

SEC. 15. No appropriation pursuant to Section 15200 of the Welfare and Institutions Code shall be made for purposes of implementing this act.

SEC. 16. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

Approved _____, 2015

Governor