



## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: SCHOOL HEALTH AND SUPPORT SERVICES

### CALIFORNIA WORKING FAMILIES POLICY SUMMIT JANUARY 12, 2011

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

##### 1991

SB 620 (Presley). Healthy Start Support Services for Children Act.

Chapter 759, Statutes of 1991

SB 620, known as Healthy Start, authorized \$20 million in funding for FY 1992–93 to support planning and operational grants for school-linked service sites throughout California. These grants have been awarded annually to establish school-linked learning supports for children, families, and communities. Over 800 grants have been awarded in all 58 counties of California. Many Healthy Start grants contributed to the development of school health centers.

##### 1998

AB 2715 (Aroner)

This bill would have designated school health centers as "traditional and safety net providers" for purposes of health plan contracts under the Healthy Families program. The effort sparked some debate about the role of school health centers in Healthy Families. The bill passed the Assembly but did not make it out of the Senate.

##### 1999

In 1999, three related bills were introduced, none of which was signed into law.

AB 1363 (Davis)

AB 1363 established a variety of standards and requirements for school health centers and gave Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB) the discretion to include any school health center as a traditional and safety net provider. The bill was passed by the Legislature and vetoed by Governor Davis.

SB 566 (Escutia)

SB 566 intended to standardize care at health centers and open channels of both public and private sector funding by creating a system of certification for school health centers within the Department of Health Services, requiring school health centers to promote enrollment of eligible students in Medi-Cal and Healthy Families, and requiring Medi-Cal managed care plans who are required to contract with safety net providers to offer contracts to school health centers. The bill did not make it out of the Senate.

## Legislative History: School Health Centers and Health Services California School Health Centers Association

### AB 920 (Cardenas)

AB 920 would have appropriated \$35,000,000 from the General Fund to fund comprehensive school-based health centers. The Maternal and Child Health branch was to establish standards for funding. This bill did not make it out of the Assembly.

## 2006

### AB 2560 (Ridley-Thomas). The School Health Centers Act.

Chapter 334, Statutes of 2006

This bill was signed by signed by Governor Schwarzenegger on September 19, 2006. It created a Public School Health Center Program jointly administered by the Department of Health Services and the State Department of Education. The program was designed to collect school health center data, facilitate the development of comprehensive health centers in partnership with California public schools, and address the programmatic, clinical, finance and policy needs of California's school health centers. To date, the program has not been implemented because neither state funding nor staff was appropriated for the program.

### AB 68 (Dymally).

This bill would have established the pupil services block grant for the purpose of providing education, mental health, and social services support services to pupils. Funds were to be apportioned to school districts and used to hire, or expand services provided by, specified credentialed or certificated school professionals, including, among others, school psychologists, counselors, nurses, social workers, speech-language pathologists, and audiologists. A school district would be authorized also to use these block grant funds to reduce the size of special education classes for pupils with low incidence disabilities and other specified disabilities. AB 68 did not make it out of the Assembly.

## 2008

### SB 564 (Ridley-Thomas). The School Health Centers Expansion Act.

Chapter 381, Statutes of 2008

This legislation was signed by Governor Schwarzenegger in September 2008. SB 564 builds upon an earlier Ridley-Thomas measure, AB 2560, which established a Public School Health Center Support Program. SB 564 would create a grant program for school health centers administered by the Public School Health Center Support Program. To date, the grant program has not been funded.

## 2010

### SB 1200 (Leno).

This bill concerned timely access to care at school. Existing law requires the Department of Managed Health Care and the Insurance Commissioner to develop and adopt regulations to ensure that enrollees of health care service plans and certain health insurers have access to needed health care services in a timely manner pursuant to specified indicators of timeliness. SB 1200 would add timeliness of care for school-age children who must receive medically necessary services during school hours as one of the indicators of timeliness. The bill would prompt a discussion between health plans and schools about how to pay for school-based services. The bill passed the Senate, but did not make it out of the Assembly.