

2021 Legislative Bills Related to the Master Plan for Aging

Updated March 17, 2021

HOUSING • HEALTH REIMAGINED • INCLUSION & EQUITY • CAREGIVING • AFFORDING AGING

In January 2021, Governor Newsom released California’s Master Plan for Aging (MPA), which lays out a ten-year plan to prepare the state for an aging and changing population. The MPA set five major goals: housing for all ages and stages; health reimagined; inclusion and equity, not isolation; caregiving; and affording aging. Now, in the 2021 legislative session, the Legislature has an opportunity to add its perspective to the path the state charts for older adults.

The list below highlights some of the bills that have been introduced that directly affect older adults and people with disabilities and that align with the goals of the MPA. Justice in Aging compiled this summary of 2021 legislative bills. Sponsors are listed when known. Questions and additions, including to sponsors, can be referred to Claire Ramsey at cramsey@justiceinaging.org. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement by Justice in Aging.

Goal 1: Housing for All Ages and Stages

1. [AB 71](#) (Luz Rivas)
 - Homeless funding: Bring California Home Act. Includes provisions targeting older homeless adults.
2. [AB 695](#) (Arambula)
 - Expand HomeSafe program, lower age to 60 for Adult Protective Services (APS), increase funding for APS and HomeSafe. (Sponsors: CWDA and Justice in Aging)
3. [AB 1083](#) (Nazarian)
 - Establish the Housing Plus Services Nursing Pilot Program in five counties. (Sponsors: LeadingAge California and LifeSTEPS)
4. [SB 91](#) (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) — CHAPTERED
 - Extend eviction moratorium until June 30, 2021. Provide rental assistance for tenants facing financial hardship due to COVID.

5. [SB 591](#) (Jones)
 - Permit the establishment of intergenerational housing development.
6. [SB 675](#) (Ochoa Bogh)
 - Allow board of supervisors to establish monthly property tax payment systems. (Sponsor: California Senior Legislature)

Goal 2: Health Reimagined

7. [AB 6](#) (Levine)
 - Require CDPH and CDSS to create health and safety guidelines and best practices for skilled nursing facilities and other congregate facilities.
8. [AB 98](#) (Frazier)
 - Establish a pilot program in three counties for reuse and redistribution of durable medical equipment and home health supplies. (Sponsor: California Senior Legislature)
9. [AB 279](#) (Muratsuchi)
 - Prohibit long-term care operators from changing services or transferring residents during a state of emergency. (Sponsor: California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform)
10. [AB 323](#) (Kalra)
 - Treat a class "AA" violation as a class "A" violation in certain circumstances and increase fines for class "A", "AA", and "B" violations for long-term care facilities.
11. [AB 383](#) (Salas)
 - Establish an Older Adult Mental Health Services Administrator within the Department of Health Care Services. (Sponsor: California Senior Legislature)
12. [AB 470](#) (Carrillo)
 - Eliminate the Medi-Cal asset limit for seniors and people with disabilities. (Sponsors: Western Center and Justice in Aging)
13. [AB 523](#) (Nazarian)
 - Require the Department of Health Care Services to make PACE program COVID-19 flexibilities permanent. (Sponsor: CalPACE)
14. [AB 540](#) (Petrie Norris)
 - Exempt PACE beneficiary from active or passive enrollment in Medi-Cal managed care and ensure PACE is presented as an enrollment option. (Sponsor: CalPACE)
15. [AB 749](#) (Nazarian)
 - Prohibit skilled nursing facilities from hiring medical directors who are not certified by the American Board of Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine as a Certified Medical Director within the last five years.
16. [AB 848](#) (Calderon)
 - Increase Medi-Cal monthly maintenance need for long-term care from \$35 to \$80 per month. (Sponsor: California Senior Legislature)

17. [AB 849](#) (Reyes)
 - Increase long-term care patient’s rights violation fines by clarifying the fines are \$500 per occurrence.
18. [AB 911](#) (Nazarian)/[SB 515](#) (Pan)
 - Create a framework for creation of an LTSS benefit.
19. [AB 1054](#) (Arambula)
 - Establish the Skilled Nursing Facility feeding assistant training program.
20. [AB 1234](#) (Arambula)
 - Allow electronic signatures on POLSTs and Advance Health Care Directives and create a statewide POLST electronic registry.
21. [AB 1300](#) (Voepel)
 - Allow residents of a Residential Care Facility for the Elderly (RCFE) to use electronic monitoring devices in their rooms.
22. [AB 1502](#) (Muratsuchi)
 - Prohibit an entity from operating a skilled nursing facility without first obtaining a license on its own behalf.
23. [SB 48](#) (Limón)
 - Require professional training to create dementia-friendly workforce. (Sponsor: Alzheimer’s Association)
24. [SB 56](#) (Durazo)
 - Expand Medi-Cal to undocumented older adults 65 and over. (Sponsors: CA Immigrant Policy Center and CPEHN)
 - [AB 4](#) (Arambula) expand Medi-Cal to all undocumented adults.
25. [SB 256](#) (Pan)
 - Require all Medi-Cal managed plans to disclose “in lieu of services” available and to include enhanced care management as a covered benefit.
26. [SB 281](#) (Dodd)
 - Make the Community Care Transitions Program permanent; reduce time needed to have resided in a Skilled Nursing Facility to 60 days, even after COVID. (Sponsors: East Bay Innovations and Disability Rights California)
27. [SB 460](#) (Pan)
 - Create the Office of the Patient Representative in the Department of Aging.
28. [SB 648](#) (Hurtado)
 - Allow Adult Residential Care Facility (ARF) & Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) residents living in facilities with at least 75% SSI recipients to receive up to 60 hours of IHSS.

29. [SB 650](#) (Stern)

- Requires the preparation of filing of an annual consolidated financial report from any organization that operates, conducts, owns, manages, or maintains a skilled nursing facility.

Goal 3: Inclusion & Equity, Not Isolation

30. [AB 665](#) (Eduardo Garcia)

- Require Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) with internet access to provide one common internet access tool for residents.

31. [AB 774](#) (Voepel)

- Establish taskforce to improve senior legal services in California.

32. [AB 1243](#) (Blanca Rubio)

- Strengthen elder financial abuse and isolation laws. (Sponsors: Bet Tzedek and Justice in Aging).

33. [SB 258](#) (Laird)

- Add HIV status to the definition of senior of “greatest social need” for the California Department of Aging to make priority determinations for services and funds.

Goal 4: Caregiving that Works

34. [AB 123](#) (Gonzalez)

- Increase Paid Family Leave benefit to 90% of wages starting Jan. 1, 2022.

35. [AB 1041](#) (Wicks)

- Expand definition of family member for purposes of worker protection and Paid Family Leave Program.

36. [SB 95](#) (Skinner)/[AB 84](#) (Ting)

- Extend COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave and expand the definition of covered worker.

Goal 5: Affording Aging

37. [SB 107](#) (Weiner):

- Simplify CalFresh applications for older adults 60 or over and people with disabilities.