First 5 LA
2011 State Legislative Agenda
Final Version: October 11, 2011

Bills Signed Into Law

AB 6: CalWORKs and CalFresh Program - Fuentes (D)
Repeals the provisions requiring fingerprinting in order to receive CalWORKs and CalFresh benefits and the quarterly reporting requirements for the CalWORKs program. Replaces it with a semiannual reporting period. Requires the development of a utility assistance initiative through the federal Low Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Linked to First 5 LA policy goals of increasing access to healthy food options and physical activity. **Position:** Support, with proposed amendments offered by Los Angeles County that will maintain fingerprinting requirements for general assistance only. **Status:** Signed and chaptered.

AB 152: Food Banks: Grants: Contributions: Income Tax Credits - Fuentes (D)
Requires the State Department of Social Services to establish and administer the State Emergency Food Assistance Program (SEFAP), to provide emergency food and funding for the provision of emergency food to food banks. Creates the SEFAP Account and would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, allocate the moneys in the account to SEFAP and require that those moneys be used for the purchase, storage, and transportation of food grown or produced in California, as prescribed, and for the department's administrative costs. Bill also allows a tax credit for donations of fresh fruits and vegetables to food banks. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of increasing access to healthy food options and physical activity. **Position:** Support. **Status:** Signed and chaptered.

AB 210: Maternity Services – Hernandez R (D)
Requires every group health insurance policy to provide coverage for maternity services for all insured persons covered under the policy. Contains provisions similar to AB 185. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of promoting comprehensive, affordable health insurance for all. **Position:** Support. **Status:** Signed and chaptered.

AB 581: Public Health: Food Access - Perez J (D)
Creates the California Healthy Food Financing Initiative Fund for the purpose of expanding access to healthy foods in underserved communities and to leverage other funding. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of increasing access to healthy food options and physical activity. **Position:** Support. **Status:** Signed and chaptered.

AB 1088: State Agencies: Collection of Demographic Data - Eng (D)
Requires certain state agencies to disaggregate data collection categories and tabulations for other major Asian groups and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander groups, and make the collected data available to the public. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of supporting integration and sharing of data. **Position:** Support. **Status:** Signed and chaptered.

**AB 1296: Health Care Eligibility, Enrollment, and Retention Act – Bonilla (D)**

Requires the California Health and Human Services Agency to establish a standardized single application form and related renewal procedures for Medi-Cal, the Healthy Families Program, the Exchange and county programs. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of promoting comprehensive, affordable health insurance for all as well as supporting integration and sharing of data. **Position:** Support. **Status:** Signed and chaptered.

**AB 1319: Product Safety: Bisphenol A - Butler (D)**

Prohibits the manufacture, sale or distribution in commerce of any bottle or cup that contains bisphenol A (BPA), at a detectable level above 0.1 parts per billion (ppb), if the bottle or cup is designed or intended to be filled with any liquid, food or beverage intended primarily for consumption by children 3 years of age or younger. Requires manufacturers to use the least toxic alternative when replacing BPA in containers in accordance with this bill. Linked to First 5 LA policy goal of increasing access to healthy food options. **Position:** Support. **Status:** Signed and chaptered.

**ACR 62: Read Across California Month - Brownley (D)**

Proclaims the month of March of every year as Read Across California Month and requests that various stakeholders work together to raise awareness of the importance of reading to young children and the importance of independent reading among our pupils and citizens of California. **Position:** Support. **STATUS:** Chaptered into law.

**SB 222: Maternity services – Evans (D)**

Requires every individual health insurance policy to provide coverage for maternity services for all insured individuals covered under the policy. Contains provisions similar to SB 155. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of promoting comprehensive, affordable health insurance for all. **Position:** Support. **Status:** Signed and chaptered.

**SB 502: Hospital Infant Feeding Protection Act - Pavley (D)**

Requires hospitals with perinatal units to have an infant-feeding policy based on Baby Friendly USA or on the Department of Public Health’s Model Policies and to clearly post that policy. Requires that these policies be routinely communicated to all perinatal unit staff and that the infant-feeding policy apply to all infants in a perinatal unit. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of increasing supports for breastfeeding. **Position:** Support. **Status:** Signed and chaptered.
Other Bills Supported By First 5 LA

AB 171  Autism Spectrum Disorder - Beall (D)

Requires health care service plan contracts and health insurance policies to provide coverage for the screening, diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of promoting comprehensive, affordable health insurance for all. STATUS: Appropriations Committee hearing postponed on May 27, 2011. Now a two-year bill.

AB 185  Maternity Services - Hernandez R (D)

Requires new forms of health insurance policies to provide coverage for maternity services. Defines maternity services as prenatal care; labor, delivery and postpartum care; inpatient hospital care; neonatal care and complications arising out of pregnancy. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of promoting comprehensive, affordable health insurance for all. STATUS: Appropriations Committee hearing postponed on May 27, 2011. NOTE: Another bill, AB 210 (Hernandez R.), was amended to incorporate AB 185’s language. The bill was signed by the Governor.

AB 234  Healthy food options - Wieckowski (D)

Declares the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to ensure that all Californians have access to fresh produce and healthy food options. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of increasing access to healthy food options. STATUS: Not assigned to committees. Now a two-year bill.

AB 419  Community Care Facilities - Mitchell (D)

Requires that Community Care Licensing visit all licensed facilities, including child care centers, annually, with the exception of licensed family child care facilities that must receive visits biennially; requires the use of a key indicator protocol specific to each facility type. Provides for a modest increase in licensing fees. Increases the availability of technical assistance to community care facilities. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of expanding access to, and improving quality of, early care and education programs. STATUS: Held in Assembly Appropriations on May 27, 2011.

AB 540  Medi-Cal: Alcohol and Drug Screening - Beall (D)

Establishes a Medi-Cal Alcohol and Drug Screening Program to provide reimbursement to localities for alcohol and drug screening and brief intervention services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are pregnant women or women of childbearing age. Requires localities to pay for the non-federal share of the expenditures. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of promoting reductions in drug, alcohol and tobacco use by parents/caregivers. STATUS: Held under submission in Senate Appropriations as of Aug. 25, 2011.
AB 660  Children's Health - Hall (D)

Declares the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that addresses chronic health issues facing children. STATUS: Not assigned to committees. Now a two-year bill.

AB 669  Sweetened Beverage Tax: Children's Health - Monning (D)

Institutes a tax of $0.01 per fluid ounce on bottled sweetened beverages and sweetened beverages distributed in California. Requires these funds to be deposited in a Children's Health Promotion Fund which would be used for childhood obesity prevention programs. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of increasing access to healthy food options and physical activity. STATUS: Referred to Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee suspense file on April 25, 2011.

AB 823  Children's Cabinet of California - Dickinson (D)

Establishes a Children's Cabinet of California to promote and implement information sharing, collaboration, increased efficiency and improved service delivery among and within the state's child-serving agencies, departments and organizations. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of supporting integration and sharing of data. STATUS: Held under submission in Senate Appropriations on Aug. 25, 2011.

AB 1072  Community Development: Promise Neighborhoods Initiative – Fuentes (D)

Requires the Office of Economic Development to establish 40 “Promise Neighborhoods” throughout the state to maximize efforts within a community to improve the health, safety, education and economic development in these neighborhoods for children from cradle to grave. Would require the office to use existing state resources and federal funds, and authorizes the office to accept fiscal support from other sources for these purposes. Not linked to one specific First 5 LA policy goal but mirrors First 5 LA’s place-based approach to developing local communities. STATUS: Held under submission in Senate Appropriations as of Aug. 25, 2011.

AB 1100  Retail Food Facilities: Toys and Incentives - Hernandez R (D)

Declares the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to improve the health of children in California by setting healthier standards for children’s meals that are accompanied by toys and other incentive items. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of increasing access to healthy food options and physical activity. STATUS: Now a two-year bill.

AB 1147  Dependent Children: Status Reports - Yamada (D)

Requires, if the dependent child in foster care is also a parent, the report made by the child's social worker to the court specifically set forth the age and developmentally
appropriate services that were provided to the minor parent to allow him or her to provide a permanent and safe home for the child. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of promoting family strengthening principles and prevention practices in the child welfare system. STATUS: Vetoed by Governor on Oct. 2, 2011.

SB 147  **Furniture: Flammability Standards- Leno (D)**

Modifies state requirements to include alternative flammability standards for residential upholstered furniture that can be met without the use of toxic brominated and chlorinated fire retardants, which are known to cause cancer and reduce fertility, and have been found in the bloodstreams of Californians, including children and pregnant and nursing moms. Linked to First 5 LA’s priority outcome of readiness for kindergarten. STATUS: Failed passage in committee on May 2, 2011.

SB 155  **Maternity Services- Evans (D)**

Requires new forms for health insurance policies, submitted to the Insurance Department after a specified date, to provide coverage for maternity services. Requires health insurers to submit revised policy forms that provide coverage for maternity services and requires insurers to include that coverage in the corresponding policies that are issued, amended or renewed following the approval of the revised forms. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of promoting comprehensive, affordable health insurance for all. POSITION: Support. STATUS: Senate Health hearing postponed by committee on Aug. 25, 2011. NOTE: Another bill, SB 222 (Evans), was amended to incorporate SB 155’s language. The bill was signed by the Governor.

SB 166  **Autism Spectrum Disorders- Steinberg (D)**

Requires health care service plans licensed by the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) and health insurers licensed by the Department of Insurance (DOI) to provide coverage for behavioral intervention therapy for autism. Linked to First 5 LA’s policy goal of promoting comprehensive, affordable health insurance for all. STATUS: Held in Senate Health Committee April 27, 2011. NOTE: SB 846 (Steinberg and Evans) was amended to incorporate provisions similar to SB 166; that bill was signed by the Governor.

SB 472  **Early Intervention Services: Assessments - Correa (D)**

Amends the California Early Intervention Services Act to require the development of either an integrated assessment instrument or a process to consolidate assessments to be used to coordinate multiple agency assessments, and to report to the Legislature. Linked to two First 5 LA policy goals: supporting early identification and intervention and supporting the integration and sharing of data. STATUS: Held in Senate Appropriations and under submission as of May 26, 2011.
Other Bills of Interest

AB 1140  CalWORKs: Eligibility: Time Limit - Donnelly (R)
Revises CalWORKs aid requirements by replacing the existing time limits on receipt of aid with a 6-month limit. Extends the provisions for ineligibility for county assistance to a child who is ineligible for CalWORKs aid due to the 6-month time limit required by the bill, or due to the imposition of a sanction of penalty. **Position:** Oppose. **STATUS:** Hearing cancelled at request of author. Now a two-year bill.

SB 486  Children and Families Program: Funding - Dutton (R)
Eliminates Proposition 10 allocations to First 5 California and First 5 county commissions. Provides that funds shall be transferred to the General Fund for appropriation by the Legislature for purposes of the Healthy Families Program and the Medi-Cal program. **Position:** Oppose. **STATUS:** Author withdrew bill from Senate Health hearing. Now a two-year bill.

SB 634  Kindergarten: Transitional Kindergarten - Runner (R)
Amends SB 1381 (Kindergarten Readiness Act) which creates transitional kindergarten. Requires the state to certify that a locality has the funds to provide transitional kindergarten to all eligible children. Linked to First 5 LA policy goal of expanding access to and improving quality of early care and education programs. **Position:** ?
**STATUS:** Failed passage in Senate Education on 04/27/11.