

Full Taskforce Meeting Minutes
February 28th, 2019
3:30-4:30 PM

Attendees:

Nina Weiler-Harwell
Jenya Cassidy
Tony (missing)
Donna Benton
Janice Bell
Zach Gassoumis
Cheryl Brown
Susan DeMarois
Anat Louis
Alex Gonzalez

Updates:

Paid Family Leave

(Jenya) states:

- This year there have been multiple bills on job protection and that includes wage replacement that has some overlap, not that many updates on these bills yet.
- Governor has made a big push on 6-month family paid leave but for new parents
- There will be budget hearings coming up on some of this, but there are no details on the final proposal.
- Early talks with the Governor's office have indicated a good feeling that there is an understanding that we want this momentum to positively impact family caregivers.
- There is a lot of openness to expanding access for caregivers and job protection.

(Nina) question: What is included in the language of AB 135?

(Jenya) states:

- That bill is not complete yet, but in terms of the language, the input received from partners is on the definition of family.
- In terms of job protection, right now caregivers must work for a big employer to receive protection but want to expand to include smaller businesses.
- Looking to get input from other organizations to have a standard definition of what family means which includes a designated person for the family.
- There has not been another meeting on this just mainly research.

Caregiver Resource Center budget ask

(Donna):

- On Monday, February 25th, 2019 there was an informational hearing in Senate Human Services.
- At the hearing, many times, the CRC was mentioned in terms of being part of the long-term services and support system and how it needs an infusion of funding.
- Also, Erin, Kathy, and Donna held 3 meetings with budget committee consultants and a staffer from the Pro Tem's office to discuss the CRC budget Ask.
- 2 of the meetings were very enthusiastic, 1 seemed cautious.
- All three meetings asked for more details on how the funds will be spent and did not hear any push back on this budget not being needed.
- What was heard from them is that everyone is going in for funding and because this is a budget ask it will come down to the last negotiations in the revise. (important to get in before the May revise).
- Because we are asking for a one time ask over three years it seemed reasonable and will also depend on how the tax receipts look like in terms of how much extra funding is in the general fund.
- Also, we must emphasize our talking points that the CRC system staff are specialists and are care navigators for family caregivers and the CRC is not just serving as a respite care program.

(Nina) question: Do we have an idea about hearing dates?

(Donna) Need days (_____)

(Donna): we still don't have a champion for the CRC budget Ask

(Jenya) question: has there been a direct ask for someone to be a champion for the CRC budget Ask.

(Donna) states: that Erin is pursuing (need name)

Action:

Cheryl will reach out to Holly Mitchell.

Respite Care resolution.

Several bills were introduced that are supposed to be part of a "Master Plan". A few were backed by Treasurer Fiona Ma (Housing, Caregiving/Workforce and ADRC/No Wrong Door).

They are ALL in the intent form right now.

SB 228 (Jackson) – Calls for the appointment of an LTSS Tsar and a task force to create a Master Plan.

AB 1186 (Nazarian) – CA Community Living Act – this appears to be the intent language for the Area Agencies on Aging proposal to consolidate programs under the Aging and Rehab Departments into one department.

AB 1382 (Aguiar-Curry) – this bill will be the Caregiving/Workforce bill for the Master Plan. This is the bill that I suggested the insertion of our respite care language. This bill references the Caregiver Task Force report and mentions uniform assessments (!)

SB 453 (Hurtado) – No Wrong Door/Aging & Disability Resource Centers.

SB 611 (Caballero) – Housing

Updates on recommendations from the Task Force report that have been introduced in the legislature

- Caregiver Tax Credit bill, AB 251, Senator Patterson,
 - \$5000 tax credit, AARP and ACCRC will support it.
 - the bill will be heard on March 18 at 2:30 PM in Assembly Revenue & Taxation, Room 126.
- Long-Term Care financing, SB 512 plus budget asks for a feasibility study are both being sponsored by the CA Aging & Disability Alliance.
- Telehealth – several bills introduced included AB 744.
- Nurse Practitioner Full Practice Authority – AB 890 (Wood)

(Nina) states:

- Task Force supported the idea of long-term care finance or program
- Regarding SB 512, this bill is being called the “framework bill” it creates the framework for future long-term care programs along with a board to oversee it.
- Senator Pan is the author and Assemblymember Kalra is the Principal co-author.
- It was introduced Friday, February 22nd, 2019 and on Monday, February 25th there was a press-conference

AB 1118 introduced by Blanco Rubio and AARP is the sponsor – this bill will require that in the next update (2020) of the State General Plan guidelines, all 8 domains from the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States & Communities are included.

Nihal’s Bill on respite care program for students to provide respite care and get credit for college is out. It is AB 568 (Reyes) – CA Care Corps Act.

Next meeting Wednesday 27th, 2019 from 4 to 5 PM: 1-866-215-3402 5563027#