



Senator Jeff Stone

28th Senate District

Fact Sheet SB 412

What is the origin of the proposal?

This bill originated from talks with representatives of the regional centers about barriers to critical services.

What is the background of this proposal?

California serves well over 300,000 individuals with developmental disabilities through contracts with independent, non-profit regional centers. Those centers have many responsibilities, including coordinating services for eligible individuals.

During the Great Recession, the developmental disabilities services system was subjected to over \$1 billion in cuts and funding reductions. While California's economy has rebounded, many of those cuts remain in place.

Ensuring access to services is critically important for people with developmental disabilities and their families. These services are life-changing, and artificial barriers can cause meaningful harm to the lives of people who otherwise qualify for them.

What deficiency in current law does this bill seek to remedy?

Under current law, a program called the "Family Cost Participation Program" requires regional centers to pay for less respite, daycare, and camp (now suspended) than a child needs based on family income. Families are expected to make-up the difference.

A separate, income-based fee program called the "Annual Family Program Fee" charges parents of children receiving other services.

These fees were created to raise money for the state during the Recession, making them, essentially, taxes on disability.

What specifically will this bill do?

SB 412 repeals these disability taxes. By doing so, it removes an artificial barrier to accessing services.

Which code sections does this bill affect?

SB 412 repeals Sections 4783 and 4785 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to developmental services. It also removes mooted references to those sections in Section 95004 of the Government Code, the California Early Intervention Services Act, and Section 4684 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

Who are the proponents of this legislation?

SB 412 is sponsored by the Association of Regional Center Agencies.

Who is the main contact for this bill?

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