

AB 403

AB403 will go into effect on January 1, 2017. The key purpose is to reduce or eliminate lengthy stays of children in institutional care. The legislation places a 10-day limit on stays and eliminates group homes below a Level 10 (the maximum is Level 14). While there are many aspects of this legislation that will impact students and districts that serve such students, the issue of funding the Out of Home Care is an area of focus for the SELPA Finance Committee.

There is no established funding mechanism for the new procedures for placements of students as of yet even though the legislation will take effect in January. Currently, the SELPA receives funds based on the level of the foster home (FFH) or licensed children's institution (LCI) and the bed count of the home each April (regardless of the number of students residing there at that time).

The Sonoma County SELPA funds the LCI/NPS tuition, related services and transportation.

Based on the Finance Committee recommendations, the Council approved the following uses of carryover from the Out of Home Care funds:

1. relocation and remodel of the CCS MTUs
2. \$5 per ADA for SELPA office operations
3. augment any shortfall in the revenue collected from the Districts of Location of the LCIs for NPS tuition, services or transportation for resident students (SCOE transfers a flat rate of \$5000 per ADA)

Until there is an established funding mechanism, there is no specific action to take or recommend. The State SELPA Association continues to lobby for funding on "capacity" of the LCI's. This item is to apprise members of the new legislation so when a funding model is established the Committee is informed and prepared for discussion.