

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 14, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 4, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1067**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Gipson**

February 26, 2015

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An act to add Section 16001.8 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to foster children.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1067, as amended, Gipson. Foster children: rights.

Existing law provides that it is the policy of the state that all minors and nonminors in foster care have specified rights, including, among others, the right to be free of the administration of medication or chemical substances, unless authorized by a physician.

This bill would require the State Department of Social Services to convene a working group ~~to develop standardized information about~~ *regarding* the specified rights of all minors and nonminors in foster care in order to educate them, foster care providers, and others, and would require the working group to be composed of, among others, the ~~California~~ *California* County Welfare Directors Association of California and foster children advocacy groups. *The bill would provide the responsibilities of the working group, including making recommendations to the Legislature, by January 1, 2018, for revising the rights, and developing standardized information regarding the revised rights, by July 1, 2018, as specified.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 16001.8 is added to the Welfare and  
2 Institutions Code, to read:  
3 16001.8. (a) The State Department of Social Services shall  
4 convene a working group ~~to develop standardized information~~  
5 ~~about~~ regarding the rights of all minors and nonminors in foster  
6 care, as specified in Section 16001.9, in order to educate ~~them~~,  
7 foster youth, foster care providers, and others. ~~The Responsibilities~~  
8 ~~of the working group shall include all of the following:~~  
9 (1) By January 1, 2018, make recommendations to the  
10 Legislature for revising the rights based on a review of state law.  
11 (2) By July 1, 2018, develop standardized information regarding  
12 the revised rights in an age-appropriate manner and reflective of  
13 any relevant licensing requirements with respect to the foster care  
14 providers' responsibilities to adequately supervise children in  
15 care.  
16 (3) By July 1, 2018, develop recommendations regarding  
17 methods for disseminating the standardized information specified  
18 in paragraph (2).  
19 (4) By July 1, 2018, develop recommendations for measuring  
20 and improving, if necessary, the degree to which foster youth are  
21 adequately informed of their rights.  
22 (b) The working group shall be composed of all of the  
23 following:  
24 (1) The Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson.  
25 ~~(a)~~  
26 (2) ~~The California County Welfare Directors Association.~~  
27 ~~Association of California.~~  
28 ~~(b)~~  
29 (3) The Chief Probation Officers of California.  
30 (4) The County Behavioral Health Directors Association of  
31 California.  
32 (5) Current and former foster youth.  
33 (6) Foster parents and caregivers.  
34 ~~(c)~~  
35 (7) Foster children advocacy groups.

- 1 ~~(d)~~
- 2 (8) Foster care facilities associations.
- 3 ~~(e)~~
- 4 (9) Any other interested parties.

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