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## AB 294: Health & Human Services Transparency Act of 2015

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### **Issue**

Should State government make the final state plans and waivers for all health and social services programs that are submitted to the federal government transparent and accessible to the public?

### **What is the background of this proposal?**

State of California operates numerous federally funded health and human services programs that require the State of California to submit a “State Plan” to operate the program. The State also receives numerous waivers from the federal government. These plans and waivers are not readily accessible to the public because they are rarely placed on the web page of the single state agency responsible for the administration of the program. There are state plans for Medicaid, ACA, CalFresh, CalWORKs, Child Care, Department of Rehabilitation plans, and others that are not known to the general public.

### **Current law**

Current law does not require that any state plan or waiver be available to the public by placing this information on the web page. The public must instead submit a Public Records Act request in order to get this public information.

### **What specifically does this bill do?**

AB 294 would increase transparency for these programs by requiring that the administering state agencies place a copy of the approved state plans and waivers on the front page of the agency’s web page. This will allow the public to gain knowledge of the programs and improve departments’ abilities to provide critical services to Californians.

### **What code sections will be affected?**

Section 3500 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and Section 135 of the Health and Safety Code

### **Who is the staff contact for this bill?**

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### **Who is the sponsor contact for this bill?**

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