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# CHILD WELFARE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CHILDREN'S ROUNDTABLE

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MARCH 19, 2015

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (MELANIE DELGADO, SUSANNA KNIFFEN)

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- A. Agenda for the meeting today is to share legislative proposals with legislative staff and other advocacy organizations.
- B. Children Now will send out a more complete list of bills related to the child welfare system with the notes from the meeting.

## BILLS

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- a. **AB 379 (Support)**—Molly Dunn—Alliance for Children's Rights
- b. **AB 381 (Support)**—Christina Riehl—Children's Advocacy Institute
- c. **AB 423 (Support)**—Angie Schwartz—Alliance for Children's Rights
- d. **AB 592 (Support)**—Susanna Kniffen—Children Now
- e. **AB 878 (Support)**—Angie Schwartz—Alliance for Children's Rights
- f. **AB 1327 (Oppose)**—Deanne Pearn—First Place for Youth
- g. **SB 23 (Support)**—Jessica Bartholow—Western Center on Law and Poverty
- h. **SB 238 (Support)**—Anna Johnson—National Center for Youth Law
- i. **SB 253 (Support)**—Anna Johnson—National Center for Youth Law
- j. **SB 316 (Support)**—Melanie Delgado—Children's Advocacy Institute
- k. **SB 319 (Support)**—Anna Johnson—National Center for Youth Law
- l. **SB 484 (Support)**—Anna Johnson—National Center for Youth Law

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## BUDGET

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- a. Rate Increase for FFA Social Workers—Jackie Rutheiser—California Alliance of Child and Family Services
- b. Alignment of LCFF and FYS Definitions of Foster Youth—Anna Johnson—National Center for Youth Law
- c. Reduced Caseloads for Dependency Attorneys—Sue Abrams—Children’s Law Center

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## STATE POLICY

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- a. Continuum of Care Reform—coalition working on DSS legislation to implement recommendations (AB 403)—Angie Schwartz—Alliance for Children’s Rights
- b. HR 4980 Implementation—workgroup meeting with DSS on compliance measure (SB 794)—Jessica Haspel—Children Now
- c. Bureau of Children’s Justice—the Attorney General has formed the Bureau of Children’s Justice to focus on issues related to the protection and enforcement of the rights of children—Rob Sumner—Attorney General Kamala Harris’ Office
- d. CSEC Action Team—meets as part of the Child Welfare Council to work on issues related to sex trafficking of minors—Danielle Mole—California Alliance of Child and Family Services

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## FEDERAL POLICY

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- a. First Focus is a national organization that seeks to ensure our federal government prioritizes children in policy and budget decisions. Their SPARC workgroup seeks to build a network of state advocates who work in this field to share ideas, foster dialogue, develop innovative policy ideas, strengthen advocacy skills, and improve outcomes for kids. They also seek to ensure youth involvement and voice in policy development and decision making—Dianna Walters—First Focus
- b. Informal kinship placements or “diversion” families are an often overlooked part of our child welfare system. Family members caring for children who are not their own need services and supports as they care for these children even if they have not been formally placed in foster care—Gerry Wallace—New York Kinship Navigator

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## WRAP UP

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- a. ***Next Meeting***—April 16, 1-3pm—California Endowment offices at 1414 K Street, Suite 500 in Sacramento
- b. ***Topic of Next Meeting***: Child Welfare and Education