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**AB-432 Personal care services.** (2017-2018)

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2017–2018 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**NO. 432**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Thurmond**

**February 13, 2017**

An act to amend Section 6253.2 of the Government Code, and to amend Sections 12301.6 and 14132.97 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to personal care services.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 432, Thurmond. Personal care services.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid Program provisions. Under existing law, one of the methods by which Medi-Cal services are provided is pursuant to contracts with various types of managed care plans.

Existing law establishes the county-administered In-Home Supportive Services program to aged, blind, or disabled persons, as defined, who are unable to perform the services themselves and who cannot safely remain in their homes or abodes of their own choosing unless these services are provided. Under the Medi-Cal program, similar services, known as personal care option services, are provided to eligible individuals. The Medi-Cal program also defines "waiver personal care services" to mean personal care services authorized by the State Department of Health Care Services for persons who are eligible for either nursing or model nursing facility waiver services. Existing law authorizes a county board of supervisors to contract with a nonprofit consortium or to establish a public authority to provide in-home supportive services.

This bill would additionally authorize a county board of supervisors to contract with a nonprofit consortium or to establish a public authority to provide waiver personal care services. The bill would authorize certain entities to meet and confer in good faith regarding wages, benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment with representatives of recognized employee organizations for an individual who is employed by a recipient of waiver personal care services and would make conforming changes.

The bill would provide that a county that has met specified conditions shall not be deemed to be the employer of these individuals for purposes of liability due to negligence or intentional torts of the individual provider. The bill would also provide that a public authority, as specified, shall be deemed to be the employer of providers of waiver personal care services for purposes of employer-employee relations, as specified, and would require that wages and benefits for these providers meet specified requirements.

The California Public Records Act requires state and local agencies to make public records available for inspection by the public, subject to specified criteria and with specified exceptions. The act exempts from public inspection specified information regarding persons paid by the state to provide in-home supportive services or personal care services.

This bill would additionally exempt from public inspection specified information regarding persons paid by the state to provide waiver personal care services.

Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

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## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

### **SECTION 1.** Section 6253.2 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**6253.2.** (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, information regarding persons paid by the state to provide in-home supportive services pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 12300) of Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code or personal care services pursuant to Sections 14132.95 and 14132.97 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, is not subject to public disclosure pursuant to this chapter, except as provided in subdivision (b).

(b) Copies of names, addresses, home telephone numbers, personal cellular telephone numbers, and personal email addresses of persons described in subdivision (a) shall be made available, upon request, to an exclusive bargaining agent and to any labor organization seeking representation rights pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 12301.6 or Section 12302.25 of the Welfare and Institutions Code or Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1. This information shall not be used by the receiving entity for any purpose other than the employee organizing, representation, and assistance activities of the labor organization.

(c) This section applies solely to individuals who provide services under the In-Home Supportive Services Program (Article 7 (commencing with Section 12300) of Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code) or the Personal Care Services Program pursuant to Sections 14132.95 and 14132.97 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

(d) Nothing in this section is intended to alter or shall be interpreted to alter the rights of parties under the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4) or any other labor relations law.

### **SEC. 2.** Section 12301.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

**12301.6.** (a) Notwithstanding Sections 12302 and 12302.1, a county board of supervisors may, at its option, elect to do either of the following:

(1) Contract with a nonprofit consortium to provide for the delivery of in-home supportive services and waiver personal care services.

(2) Establish, by ordinance, a public authority to provide for the delivery of in-home supportive services and waiver personal care services.

(b) (1) To the extent that a county elects to establish a public authority pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the enabling ordinance shall specify the membership of the governing body of the public authority, the qualifications for individual members,

the manner of appointment, selection, or removal of members, how long they shall serve, and other matters as the board of supervisors deems necessary for the operation of the public authority.

(2) A public authority established pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) shall be both of the following:

(A) An entity separate from the county, and shall be required to file the statement required by Section 53051 of the Government Code.

(B) A corporate public body, exercising public and essential governmental functions and that has all powers necessary or convenient to carry out the delivery of in-home supportive services and waiver personal care services, including the power to contract for services pursuant to Sections 12302 and 12302.1 and that makes or provides for direct payment to a provider chosen by the recipient for the purchase of services pursuant to Sections 12302 and 12302.2. Employees of the public authority shall not be employees of the county for any purpose.

(3) (A) As an alternative, the enabling ordinance may designate the board of supervisors as the governing body of the public authority.

(B) Any enabling ordinance that designates the board of supervisors as the governing body of the public authority shall also specify that no fewer than 50 percent of the membership of the advisory committee shall be individuals who are current or past users of personal assistance services paid for through public or private funds or recipients of services under this article.

(C) If the enabling ordinance designates the board of supervisors as the governing body of the public authority, it shall also require the appointment of an advisory committee of not more than 11 individuals who shall be designated in accordance with subparagraph (B).

(D) Prior to making designations of committee members pursuant to subparagraph (C), or governing body members in accordance with paragraph (4), the board of supervisors shall solicit recommendations of qualified members of either the governing body of the public authority or of any advisory committee through a fair and open process that includes the provision of reasonable written notice to, and a reasonable response time by, members of the general public and interested persons and organizations.

(4) If the enabling ordinance does not designate the board of supervisors as the governing body of the public authority, the enabling ordinance shall require the membership of the governing body to meet the requirements of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3).

(c) (1) Any public authority created pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be the employer of in-home supportive services personnel referred to recipients under paragraph (3) of subdivision (e), and the employer of providers of waiver personal care services provided pursuant to Section 14132.97, within the meaning of Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code. Recipients shall retain the right to hire, fire, and supervise the work of any in-home supportive services personnel or waiver personal care services personnel providing services to them.

(2) (A) Any nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be the employer of in-home supportive services personnel and waiver personal care services personnel referred to recipients pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) for the purposes of collective bargaining over wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.

(B) Recipients shall retain the right to hire, fire, and supervise the work of any in-home supportive services personnel or waiver personal care services personnel providing services for them.

(3) To the extent permitted by federal law, wages and benefits for providers of waiver personal care services pursuant to Section 14132.97 shall be equal to the rates in each county for the individual provider mode of services in the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program pursuant to this article.

(4) (A) If eligibility for benefits requires a provider to work a threshold number of hours, eligibility shall be determined based on the aggregate number of monthly hours worked between IHSS and waiver personal care services.

(B) This paragraph shall become operative on July 1, 2019, or upon an appropriation for this purpose in the annual state Budget Act for health benefit costs, whichever occurs earlier.

(d) A public authority established pursuant to this section or a nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section, when providing for the delivery of services under this article by contract in accordance with Sections 12302 and 12302.1, by direct payment to a provider chosen by a recipient in accordance with Sections 12302 and 12302.2, or by way of a provider of waiver personal care services provided pursuant to Section 14132.97, shall comply with and be subject to, all statutory and regulatory provisions applicable to the respective delivery mode.

(e) Any nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section or any public authority established pursuant to this section shall provide for all of the following functions under this article, but shall not be limited to those functions:

(1) The provision of assistance to recipients in finding in-home supportive services personnel and waiver personal care services authorized pursuant to Section 14132.97 through the establishment of a registry.

(2) (A) (i) The investigation of the qualifications and background of potential personnel. Upon the effective date of the amendments to this section made during the 2009–10 Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Legislature, the investigation with respect to any provider in the registry or prospective registry applicant shall include criminal background checks requested by the nonprofit consortium or public authority and conducted by the Department of Justice pursuant to Section 15660, for those public authorities or nonprofit consortia using the agencies on the effective date of the amendments to this section made during the 2009–10 Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Legislature. Criminal background checks shall be performed no later than July 1, 2010, for any provider who is already on the registry on the effective date of amendments to this section made during the 2009–10 Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Legislature, for whom a criminal background check pursuant to this section has not previously been provided, as a condition of the provider's continued enrollment in the IHSS program and the program authorizing waiver personal care services pursuant to Section 14132.97. Criminal background checks shall be conducted at the provider's expense.

(ii) Upon notice from the Department of Justice notifying the public authority or nonprofit consortium that the prospective registry applicant has been convicted of a criminal offense specified in Section 12305.81, the public authority or nonprofit consortium shall deny the request to be placed on the registry for providing supportive services to any recipient of in-home supportive services or waiver personal care services authorized pursuant to Section 14132.97.

(iii) Commencing 90 days after the effective date of the act that adds Section 12305.87, and upon notice from the Department of Justice that an applicant who is subject to the provisions of that section has been convicted of, or incarcerated following conviction for, an offense described in subdivision (b) of that section, the public authority or nonprofit consortium shall deny the applicant's request to become a provider of supportive services to any recipient of in-home supportive services or waiver personal care services, subject to the individual waiver and exception processes described in that section. An applicant who is denied on the basis of Section 12305.87 shall be informed by the public authority or nonprofit consortium of the individual waiver and exception processes described in that section.

(B) (i) Notwithstanding any other law, the public authority or nonprofit consortium shall provide an individual with a copy of his or her state-level criminal offender record information search response as provided to the entity by the Department of Justice if the individual has been denied placement on the registry for providing supportive services to any recipient of the In-Home Supportive Services program or waiver personal care services based on this information. The copy of the state-level criminal offender record information search response shall be included with the individual's notice of denial. Along with the notice of denial, the public authority or public consortium shall also provide information in plain language on how an individual may contest the accuracy and completeness of, and refute any erroneous or inaccurate information in, his or her state-level criminal offender record information search response as provided by the Department of Justice as authorized by Section 11126 of the Penal Code. The state-level criminal offender record information search response shall not be modified or altered from its form or content as provided by the Department of Justice.

(ii) The department shall develop a written appeal process for the current and prospective providers who are determined ineligible to receive payment for the provision of services in the In-Home Supportive Services program or waiver personal care services. Notwithstanding any other law, the public authority or nonprofit consortium shall provide the department with a copy of the state-level criminal offender record information search response as provided to the entity by the Department of Justice for any individual who has requested an appeal of a denial of placement on the registry for providing supportive services to any recipient of in-home supportive services or waiver personal care services based on clause (ii) or (iii) of subparagraph (A). The state-level criminal offender record information search response shall not be modified or altered from its form or content as provided by the Department of Justice and shall be provided to the address specified by the department in its written request.

(C) This paragraph does not prohibit the Department of Justice from assessing a fee pursuant to Section 11105 or 11123 of the Penal Code to cover the cost of furnishing summary criminal history information.

(D) As used in this section, "nonprofit consortium" means a nonprofit public benefit corporation that has all powers necessary to carry out the delivery of in-home supportive services or waiver personal care services under the delegated authority of a government entity.

(E) A nonprofit consortium or a public authority authorized to secure a criminal background check clearance pursuant to this section shall accept a clearance for an applicant described in clause (i) of subparagraph (A) who has been deemed eligible by another nonprofit consortium, public authority, or county with criminal background check authority pursuant to either

Section 12305.86 or this section, to receive payment for providing services pursuant to this article. Existence of a clearance shall be determined by verification through the case management, information, and payrolling system, that another county, nonprofit consortium, or public authority with criminal background check authority pursuant to Section 12305.86 or this section has deemed the current or prospective provider to be eligible to receive payment for providing services pursuant to this article.

(3) Establishment of a referral system under which in-home supportive services personnel or waiver personal care services personnel shall be referred to recipients.

(4) Providing for training for providers and recipients.

(5) (A) Performing any other functions related to the delivery of in-home supportive services or waiver personal care services.

(B) (i) Upon request of a recipient of in-home supportive services pursuant to this chapter, or a recipient of personal care services under the Medi-Cal program pursuant to Section 14132.95, a public authority or nonprofit consortium may provide a criminal background check on a nonregistry applicant or provider from the Department of Justice, in accordance with clause (i) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e). If the person who is the subject of the criminal background check is not hired or is terminated because of the information contained in the criminal background report, the provisions of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) shall apply.

(ii) A recipient of in-home supportive services pursuant to this chapter or a recipient of personal care services under the Medi-Cal program may elect to employ an individual as their service provider notwithstanding the individual's record of previous criminal convictions, unless those convictions include any of the offenses specified in Section 12305.81.

(6) Ensuring that the requirements of the personal care option pursuant to Subchapter 19 (commencing with Section 1396) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code are met.

(f) (1) Any nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section or any public authority created pursuant to this section shall be deemed not to be the employer of in-home supportive services personnel or waiver personal care services personnel referred to recipients under this section for purposes of liability due to the negligence or intentional torts of the in-home supportive services personnel or waiver personal care services personnel.

(2) A nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section or any public authority created pursuant to this section is not liable for action or omission of any in-home supportive services personnel or waiver personal care services personnel whom the nonprofit consortium or public authority did not list on its registry or otherwise refer to a recipient.

(3) Counties and the state shall be immune from any liability resulting from their implementation of this section in the administration of the In-Home Supportive Services program or in the administration of waiver personal care services authorized under Section 14132.97. Any obligation of the public authority or consortium pursuant to this section, whether statutory, contractual, or otherwise, shall be the obligation solely of the public authority or nonprofit consortium, and shall not be the obligation of the county or state.

(g) Any nonprofit consortium contracting with a county pursuant to this section shall ensure that it has a governing body that complies with the requirements of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) or an advisory committee that complies with subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b).

(h) Recipients of services under this section may elect to receive services from in-home supportive services personnel or waiver personal care services personnel who are not referred to them by the public authority or nonprofit consortium. Those personnel shall be referred to the public authority or nonprofit consortium for the purposes of wages, benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment.

(i) (1) This section does not affect the state's responsibility with respect to the state payroll system, unemployment insurance, or workers' compensation and other provisions of Section 12302.2 for providers of in-home supportive services or for individuals who are employed by a recipient of waiver personal care services authorized under Section 14132.97.

(2) The Controller shall make any deductions from the wages of in-home supportive services personnel or waiver personal care services personnel, who are employees of a public authority pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (c), that are agreed to by that public authority in collective bargaining with the designated representative of the in-home supportive services personnel or waiver personal care services personnel pursuant to Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code and transfer the deducted funds as directed in that agreement.

(3) Any county that elects to provide in-home supportive services pursuant to this section shall be responsible for any increased costs to the in-home supportive services case management, information, and payrolling system attributable to that election.

The department shall collaborate with any county that elects to provide in-home supportive services pursuant to this section prior to implementing the amount of financial obligation for which the county shall be responsible.

(j) To the extent permitted by federal law, personal care option funds, obtained pursuant to Subchapter 19 (commencing with Section 1396) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code, along with matching funds using the state and county sharing ratio established in subdivision (c) of Section 12306, or any other funds that are obtained pursuant to Subchapter 19 (commencing with Section 1396) of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code, may be used to establish and operate an entity authorized by this section.

(k) Notwithstanding any other law, the county, in exercising its option to establish a public authority, shall not be subject to competitive bidding requirements. However, contracts entered into by either the county, a public authority, or a nonprofit consortium pursuant to this section shall be subject to competitive bidding as otherwise required by law.

(l) (1) The department may adopt regulations implementing this section as emergency regulations in accordance with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. For the purposes of the Administrative Procedure Act, the adoption of the regulations shall be deemed an emergency and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, or general welfare. Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, these emergency regulations shall not be subject to the review and approval of the Office of Administrative Law.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (h) of Section 11346.1 and Section 11349.6 of the Government Code, the department shall transmit these regulations directly to the Secretary of State for filing. The regulations shall become effective immediately upon filing by the Secretary of State.

(3) Except as otherwise provided for by Section 10554, the Office of Administrative Law shall provide for the printing and publication of these regulations in the California Code of Regulations. Emergency regulations adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall remain in effect for no more than 180 days.

(m) (1) In the event that a county elects to form a nonprofit consortium or public authority pursuant to subdivision (a) before the State Department of Health Care Services has obtained all necessary federal approvals pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (j) of Section 14132.95, all of the following shall apply:

(A) Subdivision (d) shall apply only to those matters that do not require federal approval.

(B) The second sentence of subdivision (h) shall not be operative.

(C) The nonprofit consortium or public authority shall not provide services other than those specified in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) of subdivision (e).

(2) Paragraph (1) shall become inoperative when the State Department of Health Care Services has obtained all necessary federal approvals pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (j) of Section 14132.95.

(n) (1) One year after the effective date of the first approval by the department granted to the first public authority, the Bureau of State Audits shall commission a study to review the performance of that public authority.

(2) The study shall be submitted to the Legislature and the Governor not later than two years after the effective date of the approval specified in subdivision (a). The study shall give special attention to the health and welfare of the recipients under the public authority, including the degree to which all required services have been delivered, out-of-home placement rates, prompt response to recipient complaints, and any other issue the director deems relevant.

(3) The report shall make recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor for any changes to this section that will further ensure the well-being of recipients and the most efficient delivery of required services.

(o) Commencing July 1, 1997, the department shall provide annual reports to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature on the efficacy of the implementation of this section, and shall include an assessment of the quality of care provided pursuant to this section.

(p) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, and except as provided in paragraph (2), the department shall, no later than January 1, 2009, implement subparagraphs (A) and (B) through an all-county letter from the director:

(A) Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e).

(B) Subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (e).

(2) The department shall, no later than July 1, 2009, adopt regulations to implement subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1).

(q) The amendments made to paragraphs (2) and (5) of subdivision (e) made by the act that added this subdivision during the 2007–08 Regular Session of the Legislature shall be implemented only to the extent that an appropriation is made in the annual Budget Act or other statute, except for the amendments that added subparagraph (D) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e), which shall go into effect January 1, 2009.

**SEC. 3.** Section 14132.97 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

**14132.97.** (a) (1) For purposes of this section, "waiver personal care services" means personal care services authorized by the department for persons who are eligible for either nursing or model nursing facility waiver services.

(2) Waiver personal care services shall satisfy all of the following criteria:

(A) The services shall be defined in the nursing and model nursing facility waivers.

(B) The services shall differ in scope from services that may be authorized under Section 14132.95 or 14132.952.

(C) The services shall not replace any hours of services authorized or that may be authorized under Section 14132.95 or 14132.952.

(3) The entities described in Section 12301.6, in accordance with Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code, shall be required to act as the employer to meet and confer in good faith regarding wages, benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment of individuals providing waiver personal care services.

(b) An individual may receive waiver personal care services if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The individual has been approved by the department to receive services in accordance with a waiver approved under Section 1915(c) of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1396n(c)) for persons who would otherwise require care in a nursing facility.

(2) The individual has doctor's orders that specify that he or she requires waiver personal care services in order to remain in his or her own home.

(3) The individual chooses, either personally or through a substitute decisionmaker who is recognized under state law for purposes of giving consent for medical treatment, to receive waiver personal care services, as well as medically necessary skilled nursing services, in order to remain in his or her own home.

(4) The waiver personal care services and all other waiver services for the individual do not result in costs that exceed the fiscal limit established under the waiver.

(c) The department shall notify the administrator of the In-Home Supportive Services program in the county of residence of any individual who meets all requirements of subdivision (b) and has been authorized by the department to receive waiver personal care services. The county of residence shall then do the following:

(1) Inform the department of the services that the individual is authorized to receive under Section 14132.95 or 14132.952 at the time he or she becomes eligible for waiver personal care services.

(2) Determine the individual's eligibility for services under Section 14132.95 or 14132.952 if he or she is not currently authorized to receive those services and if he or she has not been previously determined eligible for those services.

(3) Implement the department's authorization for waiver personal care services for the individual at the quantity and scope authorized by the department.

(d) (1) Waiver personal care services approved by the department for individuals who meet the requirements of subdivision (b) may be provided in either of the following ways, or a combination of both:

(A) By a licensed and certified home health agency participating in the Medi-Cal program.

(B) By one or more providers of personal care services under Article 7 (commencing with Section 12300) of Chapter 3 and subdivision (d) of Section 14132.95, when the individual elects, in writing, to utilize these service providers.

(2) The department shall approve waiver personal care services for individuals who meet the requirements of subdivision (b) only when the department finds that the individual's receipt of waiver personal care services is necessary in order to enable the individual to be maintained safely in his or her own home and community.

(3) When waiver personal care services are provided by a licensed and certified home health agency, the home health agency shall receive payment in the manner by which it would receive payment for any other service approved by the department.

(4) When waiver personal care services are provided by one or more providers of personal care services under Article 7 (commencing with Section 12300) of Chapter 3 and subdivision (d) of Section 14132.95, the providers shall receive payment and benefits on a schedule and in a manner by which providers of personal care services receive payment and benefits. The State Department of Social Services shall commence making payments for waiver personal care services when its payment system has been modified to accommodate those payments. A county is not obligated to administer waiver personal care services until the State Department of Social Services payment system has been modified to accommodate those payments. However, any county or public authority or nonprofit consortium that administers the In-Home Supportive Services and personal care services programs may pay providers for the delivery of waiver personal care services if it chooses to do so. In that case, the county, public authority, or nonprofit consortium shall be reimbursed by the department for the waiver personal care services authorized by the department and provided to an individual upon submittal of documentation as required by the waiver, and in accordance with the requirements of the department.

(e) Waiver personal care services shall not count as alternative resources in a county's determination of the amount of services an individual may receive under Section 14132.95 or 14132.952.

(f) Any administrative costs to the State Department of Social Services, a county, or a public authority or nonprofit consortium associated with implementing this section shall be considered administrative costs under the waiver and shall be reimbursed by the department.

(g) Two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) is appropriated from the General Fund to the State Department of Social Services for the 1998–99 fiscal year for the purpose of making changes to the case management, information, and payroll system that are necessary for the implementation of this section.

(h) This section shall not be implemented until the department has obtained federal approval of any necessary amendments to the existing nursing facility and model nursing facility waivers and the state plan under Title 19 of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1396 et seq.). Any amendments to the existing nursing facility and model nursing facility waivers and the state plan which are deemed to be necessary by the director shall be submitted to the federal Health Care Financing Administration by April 1, 1999.

(i) The department shall implement this section only to the extent that its implementation results in fiscal neutrality, as required under the terms of the waivers.

**SEC. 4.** The Legislature finds and declares that Section 1 of this act, which amends Section 6253.2 of the Government Code, imposes a limitation on the public's right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

In order to protect the privacy and well-being of state and local employees paid by the state to provide waiver personal care services, it is necessary to limit general access to information regarding those persons.