

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 23, 2025

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1069

Introduced by Assembly Member Bains

February 20, 2025

An act to add Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 9860) to Division 8.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to aging.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1069, as amended, Bains. Older adults: emergency shelters.

Existing law, the Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act, establishes various programs that serve older individuals. The act requires the California Department of Aging to designate various private nonprofit or public agencies as area agencies on aging (AAAs) to work within a planning and service area and provide a broad array of social and nutritional services.

The act also establishes Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) programs to provide information to consumers and their families on available long-term services and supports (LTSS) programs, with assistance to older adults, caregivers, and persons with disabilities in accessing LTSS programs at the local level. Under the act, AAAs and independent living centers are the core local partners in developing ADRC programs.

Existing law sets forth various provisions relating to emergency shelters, including, among others, ~~certain provisions within the Natural Disaster Emergency Shelter Program, the Emergency Housing and Assistance Program, and the California Emergency Services Act. Under~~

the California Emergency Services Act, the State Emergency Plan is the official document approved by the Governor that describes the principles and methods to be applied in carrying out emergency operations or rendering mutual aid during emergencies. Existing law requires the Office of Emergency Services to update the State Emergency Plan on or before January 1, 2019, and every 5 years thereafter. Existing law authorizes the Governor to assign to a state agency any activity concerned with the mitigation of the effects of an emergency of a nature related to the existing powers and duties of that agency, including sheltering support duties.

This bill would, as part of disaster planning and response, require ~~a county, city, city and county, or any other applicable local jurisdiction~~ the lead agency designated with sheltering support duties under the State Emergency Plan Emergency Support Functions to coordinate a memorandum of understanding with an AAA or an ADRC program to allow access by the AAA or the ADRC program to an emergency shelter, as defined, established for evacuation purposes during an active event, in order to ensure that older adults and persons with disabilities receive continuous services and necessary support. ~~By creating new duties for local jurisdictions with regard to emergency shelters, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.~~

~~The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.~~

~~This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.~~

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 9860) is
2 added to Division 8.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

3

4 CHAPTER 15. DISASTER PLANNING AND RESPONSE

5

6 9860. For purposes of this chapter, ~~“emergency~~ the following
7 definitions apply:

1 (a) “Emergency shelter” means a facility established to provide
2 temporary refuge and essential services to individuals displaced
3 by emergencies or disasters.

4 (b) “State Emergency Plan” has the same meaning as defined
5 in Section 8560 of the Government Code.

6 9861. As part of disaster planning and response, ~~a county, city,~~
7 ~~city and county, or any other applicable local jurisdiction~~ the lead
8 agency designated with sheltering support duties under the State
9 Emergency Plan Emergency Support Functions shall coordinate
10 a memorandum of understanding with an area agency on aging
11 (AAA) or an Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)
12 program to allow access by the AAA or the ADRC program to an
13 emergency shelter established for evacuation purposes during an
14 active event, in order to ensure that older adults and persons with
15 disabilities receive continuous services and necessary support.

16 ~~SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that~~
17 ~~this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to~~
18 ~~local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made~~
19 ~~pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division~~
20 ~~4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.~~