

# National Center for Youth Law PsychDrugs Action Campaign



## Psychotropic Medication Bill Package

### SB 319

Issue: Public Health Nurses- Psych Drug Procedures

Author: Senator Beall

Principal Coauthors: Senator Mitchell, Assemblymember Chiu

Coauthors: Senator Monning, Assemblymember Gatto

Sponsor: NCYL

This bill will clarify the role of public health nurses and give them authority to oversee screening and monitoring appointments for psychotropic medications. The public health nurses will ensure that lab tests, other screenings, evaluations and assessments meet reasonable standards of medical practice.

### SB 484

Issue: Utilization of Psych Drugs – Group Home Oversight

Author: Senator Beall

Principal Coauthor: Assemblymember Chiu

Coauthor: Senator Monning, Senator Mitchell

Sponsor: NCYL

This bill will identify group homes that rely excessively on psychotropic medication, use such medications as the primary intervention for behavior problems, or employ other high-risk practices. When problem practices are found a corrective action plan will be formulated for safe and appropriate care for the children and youth in those homes.

### SB 238

Issue: Psych Drug Data, Alerts, Training, JV-220 form

Authors: Senator Mitchell and Senator Beall

Coauthors: Assemblymember Chiu,

Assemblymember Gatto

Sponsor: CWDA

Co-Sponsor: NCYL

This bill will support crucial information sharing with those decision-makers who work with foster children:

- Data Reports Monthly on Psych Med Use
- Alert System developed for Counties
- Training for caregivers, dependency attorneys, judges, etc.
- More input on the JV220 form identifying alternative treatments attempted and information given to caregivers concerning potential risks and benefits of treatment

### SB 253

Issue: Support for the Courts

Author: Senator Monning

Principal Coauthor: Assemblymember Chiu

Sponsor: NCYL

This bill aims to strengthen the court authorization process for foster children. The bill would establish the following:

- Judges, in making their determination to authorize psychotropic medications, will make decisions based on clear and convincing evidence.
- Second opinion criteria for the most extreme prescribing cases such as for use with children ages 0-5, multiple antipsychotics, etc.
- Follow up monitoring requirements reported to the courts to clarify the safety and impact of the medication treatment

## Contact

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