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An act relating to public social services.



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

SECTION 1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to provide a one-time cost-of-living adjustment to the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Program for the Aged, Blind and Disabled (SSI/SSP) benefits, effective January 1, 2017, as proposed in the budget submitted by the Governor to the Legislature for the 2016–17 fiscal year.

(b) It is further the intent of the Legislature that the cost-of-living adjustment provided pursuant to this act shall be equal to the percentage increase in the California Necessities Index from December 2014 to December 2015, as reported by the Department of Finance, and shall be applied only to the SSP portion of the total benefit in effect on December 31, 2016.



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## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

Bill No.

as introduced, \_\_\_\_\_.

General Subject: Public social services: SSI/SSP.

Existing law provides for the State Supplementary Program for the Aged, Blind and Disabled (SSP), which requires the State Department of Social Services to contract with the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services to make payments to SSP recipients to supplement Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments made available pursuant to the federal Social Security Act.

Under existing law, benefit payments under SSP are calculated by establishing the maximum level of nonexempt income and federal SSI and state SSP benefits for each category of eligible recipient. The state SSP payment is the amount required, when added to the nonexempt income and SSI benefits available to the recipient, to provide the maximum benefit payment. Existing law prohibits, for each calendar year, commencing with the 2011 calendar year, any cost-of-living adjustment from being made to the maximum benefit payment unless otherwise specified by statute, except



for the pass along of any cost-of-living increase in the federal SSI benefits. Existing law continuously appropriates funds for the implementation of SSP.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to provide a one-time cost-of-living adjustment to SSI/SSP benefits, effective January 1, 2017, as specified. The bill would further state the intent of the Legislature that the adjustment be equal to the percentage increase in the California Necessities Index from December 2014 to December 2015, as reported by the Department of Finance, and be applied only to the SSP portion of the total benefit in effect on December 31, 2016.

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

