

Updates on AB 506 Youth service organizations: child abuse and neglect prevention

AB 2669 was signed into law by Governor Newsom on September 6, 2022. This law made two changes to AB 506 Youth service organizations: child abuse and neglect prevention.

1. New Effective Date for Fingerprinting by LIVE SCAN

This law effectively pushed back the fingerprint mandate under AB 506 to January 1, 2024 as the California Department of Justice (CDOJ) has not been able to keep up with applications for ORI numbers for LIVE SCAN by nonprofit organizations in a timely manner. Churches that already have ORI numbers can also postpone Live Scan background checks to Jan. 1, 2024. However, we would recommend our churches to comply with the requirement upon receipt of the ORI # from the CDOJ.

2. One-to-One Counseling of Children and Youth

The second change relates to counseling. Organizations involved in one-to-one counseling of children and youth are exempt from the requirement of having “to the greatest extent possible” two mandated reporters present with children / youth in those counseling sessions IF such organizations have the following policies and procedures in place:

- To ensure comprehensive screening of volunteers
- To ensure training of volunteers and parents or guardians
- To maintain regular contact with volunteers and parents or guardians

Please note that this does not remove the “two mandated reporters” requirement in all other situations. Churches need to have a minimum of two adults, either employees or volunteers, present wherever and whenever children are present.

Link to AB 2669

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB2669