Trailer Bill Language for Special Education and Funding Formula

Trailer Bill Language for Special Ed and Funding Formula was released on May 15, 2020. Getting lots of questions about what are the details – there continue to be very few details in some of these areas – but you can look if you wish or if your leaders want to read themselves.

The biggest thing I think people should be aware of

The language about changing the definition of allowable expenditures for ERMHS remains AND they shift the implementing year to 2019-2020. What this means in English – if you have carry over, a slush fund or have otherwise been struggling to spend these $$, they will not be up for grabs. The new definition changes it from mental health need to include behavioral intervention, which for most of us is a huge cost for LEAs and for any other mental health related service not necessarily required by IDEA – which means prevention and early intervention and possibly 504 or other locally defined uses. The new definition: shall be available for all mental health related services, including but not limited to the following:

(1) Out-of-home residential services for emotionally disturbed pupils.
(2) Counseling and guidance services, including counseling, career counseling, personal counseling, and parent counseling and training.
(3) Psychological services.
(4) Social work services.

5 Behavioral interventions.

(6) Any other mental health-related services not necessarily required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.).

Here is the trailer bill link
https://esd.dof.ca.gov/dofpublic/public/trailerBill/pdf/161

Things that remain the same
No new single district SELPAs through July 1, 2024
SB 75 workgroup progress report due Oct 2020 – shifts funding to FEDERAL FUNDS
Changes freezes extraordinary cost pool and shifts due date to October 30
Freezes Low Incidence and tied to Census Day 2019
Still references 3 year rolling cost pool with COLA
Hold Harmless language is still there with $645 as rate

Similar with a change:
Freezes ERMHS funding and expands use – and changes implementation to 2019-2020 - which means all ERMHS carryover could be utilized for the expanded list of services!
Extends OOHIC freeze for another 2 years –through 2023
Maintains Dyslexia funding and language- extends start to 2020-2021
Maintains increase to base rate- changes to $645 per ADA

Removes
Preschool Grant
Template project language
Alternative Diploma language