

## **AB 1978 Hotline (Social Worker Hotline) Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q:** Are social workers mandated to report to this hotline or is there a penalty for not reporting to this hotline?

**A:** No. This hotline just provides an additional avenue for social workers to voluntarily report policy, procedure, and practice concerns regarding child welfare agencies and support child health and well-being.

**Q:** Can any social worker make reports to this hotline?

**A:** No. This hotline is designed to provide a place for social workers who are employed in county child welfare services or those working in state adoptions district offices contracted to provide adoptions services to the counties. Social workers in hospitals, FFA's, Group homes, etc. are able to make complaints through their administration to counties. This hotline is meant to provide internal employees a means to make reports about internal concerns while remaining anonymous to their agency.

**Q:** Is this hotline for reporting issues that impact only the safety on minors, or does this also include transitional aged youth, like Non-Minor Dependents?

**A:** Yes, it includes all child welfare related practice, for both minor and non-minor dependents.