CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY JOURNAL

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FINAL RECESS

Assembly Chamber, Sacramento
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Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 59, the following Assembly Journal for the 2025–26 Regular Session was printed while the Assembly was in Final Recess.

REPORTS

The following letter of transmittal was presented by the Chief Clerk and ordered printed in the Journal:

California State Auditor

2025-109
November 5, 2026

The Honorable Speaker of the Assembly
The Honorable Members of the Assembly
of the Legislature of California
State Capitol, Room 319
Sacramento, California

Members of the Assembly: As directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, my office conducted an audit of the Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA) program. Our assessment focused on six school districts and the California Department of Public Health (DPH), and we determined that unreliable data reported by districts and insufficient statewide oversight of the KOHA program's requirements threaten the goals of the program.

The KOHA program requires public school students in certain grades to obtain an oral health assessment by a qualified dental health professional and provide the results of that assessment to their school districts. In turn, school districts are required to report KOHA program data, including the results of these assessments, to the State or to their county offices of education. However, we found that DPH has not adhered to its plans to use KOHA program data to measure the State's progress in improving childhood oral health. Moreover, despite managing the statewide data system used to store KOHA program data, DPH has not implemented safeguards that would better ensure that the data are complete and reliable. In the absence of effective statewide

oversight, the districts we reviewed did not meet their obligations to notify parents of the KOHA program requirements and report reliable KOHA program data to the State. For example, none of the districts provided families with all required information regarding the assessment requirement. Moreover, none of the districts maintained reliable data in all areas required by state law. As such, we were unable to use these districts' data to determine information such as the number of students assessed and found to have dental health needs.

We make several recommendations to establish stronger oversight of the KOHA program. Additionally, because we found that school districts that conduct on-site dental assessments generally have a greater number of assessed students, we make recommendations to the Legislature for how to streamline requirements and incentivize on-site dental assessments.

Respectfully submitted,

GRANT PARKS
California State Auditor

Above report referred to the Committee on Education.

ROBERT RIVAS, Speaker

DANIEL ALVAREZ, Assistant Minute Clerk

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