



AGENDA ITEM: 16  
DATE OF MEETING: April 24, 2014  
ACTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
INFORMATION: \_\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_\_

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### SUMMARY

First 5 California staff will provide an update on the bills of interest for the 2013-14 legislative session and identify First 5 California letters of support.

### LEGISLATIVE BILLS OF INTEREST

Using the screening criteria adopted by the Commission, First 5 California staff has identified 19 bills of interest for the 2013-14 legislative session. The Legislative Bills of Interest Report, which provides the bill number, author, title, status, and any relevant hearing dates for each of the 19 bills, is provided as Attachment A. The Report will be updated and posted on First 5 California's website as bills are amended.

### LETTERS OF SUPPORT

The 19 bills of interest were reviewed and discussed with the Legislative Advisory Committee; 3 bills were identified as those that First 5 California would publicly support:

- AB 1454: This bill would require care facilities to be subject to annual unannounced visits by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and would require CDSS to conduct more frequent unannounced visits under specified circumstances.
- AB 1902: This bill would eliminate the requirement for low-income families to be assessed part-day preschool fees.
- SB 1000: This bill would require sugar-sweetened beverage containers to have safety warnings, and require warnings on vending machines, beverage dispensing machines, and places where sugar-sweetened beverages are sold in unsealed containers.

Copies of the letters of support for these bills are provided as Attachment B.

**SB 837 AND SB 1123**

First 5 California has not taken a formal position on either SB 837 or SB 1123 since the bills have been substantially amended within the last weeks. Due to their particular relevance to the Commission's vision and mission, these bills will be closely watched.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. First 5 California Legislative Bills of Interest Report for the 2013-14 Legislative Session
- B. Letters of Support for AB 1454, AB 1902, and SB 1000



**FIRST 5 CALIFORNIA  
2013-14 LEGISLATIVE BILLS OF INTEREST**

**LEVEL 1**

**SB 837**

**Author/Title:** (Steinberg) Schools: Transitional Kindergarten

**Current Text:** Amended: 4/2/2014 [pdf](#)

**Status/Location:** 4/9/2014 - Senate Appropriations Committee

This bill, the Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2014, would require each school district or charter school that offers kindergarten to offer transitional kindergarten, and would require a child that meets specified minimum age requirements to be admitted to transitional kindergarten. The bill would authorize the average daily attendance of a school district and charter school to include the average daily attendance of pupils enrolled in transitional kindergarten and would require transitional kindergarten to receive a per pupil base grant for apportionment purposes. The bill would require transitional kindergarten to be taught by teachers and paraprofessionals who meet certain requirements, and would require transitional kindergarten to include specified elements that promote integration and alignment with the early learning and child care system and the elementary education system. The bill would require a school district or charter school offering transitional kindergarten to provide public notice of the availability of transitional kindergarten and to administer transitional kindergarten. The bill would authorize a school district or charter school administering transitional kindergarten to contract with a public local agency or private local provider to participate in the delivery of transitional kindergarten. The bill would require the California Board of Education to adopt basic instructional materials for use in transitional kindergarten commencing with the 2015-16 school year.

**SB 1123**

**Author/Title:** (Liu) Strong Families, Strong Children Act

**Current Text:** Amended: 4/3/2014 [pdf](#)

**Status/Location:** 4/11/2014 - Senate Human Services Committee

**Calendar:** 4/28/2014 - 1:30pm State Capitol, Room 3191

This bill would eliminate the requirement for families to be assessed a fee for part-day preschool programs, and would require the Superintendent to establish a fee schedule for families using the part-day preschool program. The bill would include parent education and support, continuity of care, and assignment of primary caregivers for infants and toddlers as part of quality indicators. The bill would require 4-year-old children enrolled in a state-funded transitional kindergarten program to be deemed eligible for supplemental education and care services through the California State Preschool program if certain eligibility requirements are met. The bill would require the Superintendent to develop standards, rules, and regulations for the implementation of high-quality, evidenced-based infant and toddler services that would be required to promote responsive caregiving by parents, guardians, and care providers. The bill would require no later than July 1, 2019, child care and development services providers to have at least one teacher in each classroom that holds at a minimum a child development teacher permit issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

- AB 1444**      **Author/Title:** (Buchanan) Elementary Education: Kindergarten  
**Current Text:** Amended: 3/28/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 4/1/2014 - Assembly Education Committee  
This bill, beginning with the 2015-16 school year, would require a child to have completed one year of kindergarten before he or she may be admitted to the first grade, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.
- AB 1454**      **Author/Title:** (Calderon, Ian) Care Facilities: Regulatory Visits  
**Current Text:** Amended: 3/17/2014 [pdf](#)  
**SUPPORT**      **Status/Location:** 4/9/2014 - Assembly Appropriations Committee (Suspense File)  
This bill would require care facilities to be subject to an annual unannounced visit by the Department of Social Services (DSS). The bill would require the department to conduct more frequent unannounced visits under specified circumstances. The bill would delete the provisions requiring DSS to conduct annual unannounced visits to no less than 20% of the facilities and the provisions requiring an unannounced visit at least once every 5 years.
- AB 1719**      **Author/Title:** (Weber) Full-Day Kindergarten  
**Current Text:** Amended: 3/28/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 4/1/2014 - Assembly Education Committee  
This bill would require, commencing with the 2017-18 school year, school districts offering kindergarten to implement a full-day kindergarten program, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program. The bill would permit a school to postpone implementation of a full-day kindergarten if its governing board approves the postponement.
- AB 1902**      **Author/Title:** (Bonta) California State Preschool Program: Part-Day Preschool: Fees  
**Current Text:** Amended: 4/9/2014 [pdf](#)  
**SUPPORT**      **Status/Location:** 3/3/2014 - Assembly Education Committee  
**Calendar:** 4/23/2014 - 1:30pm State Capitol, Room 126  
Current law, under the California state preschool program, requires fees to be assessed and collected for families with children in a part-day preschool program and requires the Superintendent to establish a fee schedule for families using preschool and child care and development services pursuant to the Child Care and Development Services Act. This bill would eliminate the requirement for families to be assessed these fees for part-day preschool and for the Superintendent to establish a fee schedule for families using the part-day preschool program.
- AB 2111**      **Author/Title:** (Ammiano D) Child Development Services: Pregnant and Parenting Teens: Cal-SAFE  
**Current Text:** Amended: 4/2/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 4/10/2014 - Assembly Appropriations Committee  
This bill would revise and recast the Cal-SAFE program. The bill would, among other things, specify that a Cal-SAFE program may provide for any or all of the supportive services for teen parents and an early learning and educational support program for the voluntarily enrolled children of the teen parents. The bill would require the entities, if operating an early learning and educational support program for the children of teen parents participating in the Cal-SAFE program, to adhere to certain health, safety, and quality requirements, including that each child have a developmental profile.

**AB 2544** **Author/Title:** (Hernández, Roger) School Finance: Preschool Funding  
**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/21/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 3/13/2014 - Assembly Education Committee  
The bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction, commencing with the 2015-16 fiscal year, and each year thereafter, to calculate and apportion, a preschool funding grant for each school and charter school in the state pursuant to a specified funding formula. The bill would require the school district and charter school to use the money to fund either existing or startup preschools in the district or at the charter school. The funding formula would be based on the number of 4 year olds who reside in a school district who are economically disadvantaged, an English learner or a foster youth, as provided by each school district.

**SB 1000** **Author/Title:** (Monning) Public Health: Sugar-Sweetened Beverages: Safety Warnings  
**Current Text:** Amended: 3/27/2014 [pdf](#)  
**SUPPORT** **Status/Location:** 2/27/2014 - Senate Appropriations Committee  
**Calendar:** 4/28/2014 10:00am State Capitol, Room 4203  
This bill would establish the Sugar-Sweetened Beverages Safety Warning Act, which would prohibit a person from distributing, selling, or offering for sale a sugar-sweetened beverage in a sealed beverage container, or a multipack of sugar-sweetened beverages, in this state unless the beverage container or multipack bears a specified safety warning, as prescribed. The bill also would require every person who owns, leases, or otherwise legally controls the premises where a vending machine or beverage dispensing machine is located, or where a sugar-sweetened beverage is sold in an unsealed container to place a specified safety warning in certain locations, including, on the exterior of any vending machine that includes a sugar-sweetened beverage for sale.

**SB 192** **Author/Title:** (Liu) Early Learning and Educational Support Services  
(2 Year Bill) **Current Text:** Amended: 8/5/2013 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 8/16/2013 - Assembly Education Committee  
This bill would reorganize and recast provisions of the Child Care and Development Services Act as the Early Learning and Educational Support Act, and would establish as its purpose providing a comprehensive early learning and school support system that promotes access to safe, high-quality early learning and educational support programs. The bill would require the Superintendent to administer the early learning and educational support program through services that include direct classroom or alternative payment services, and would require the Superintendent to develop standards for the implementation of high-quality early learning and educational support programs based on certain indicia of quality.

## **LEVEL 2**

**AB 357** **Author/Title:** (Pan) Children's Health Advisory Board  
**Current Text:** Amended: 1/16/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 2/6/2014 - Senate Health Committee  
This bill would repeal the Healthy Families Advisory Board and instead rename and recast the board as the Children's Health Advisory Board, an independent, statewide advisory body charged with developing a vision for children's health in the state, among other tasks.

- AB 876**      **Author/Title:** (Bonta) Telecommunications: California Teleconnect Fund Administrative Committee Fund  
**Current Text:** Amended: 1/17/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 2/6/2014 - Senate Energy, Utilities & Communications Committee  
Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission to develop and implement a program funded by the California Teleconnect Fund Administrative Committee Fund to advance universal service by providing discounted rates to qualifying schools maintaining kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive. This bill would specify that discounted rates are available to qualifying schools maintaining preschools and transitional kindergartens. The bill would require the Commission to develop and implement an outreach plan to preschools and transitional kindergartens to increase awareness of services available to these schools.
- AB 1089**      **Author/Title:** (Calderon, Ian) Foster Care  
(2 Year Bill) **Current Text:** Amended: 6/17/2013 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 7/12/2013 - Senate Human Services Committee  
This bill would specify the transfer procedures that would apply when children who have an order for foster care, are awaiting foster care placement, or are placed in out-of-home care, and other consumers of regional center services and supports, transfer between regional centers or local education agencies, or from a local education agency to a catchment area where there are no services, as specified. Among other things, the bill would provide that these consumers shall have the right to receive comparable early intervention services from the new catchment area's regional center, regardless of whether the person has been deemed eligible for provision of and payment for early intervention services through the regional center. The bill would require the sending regional center to notify the receiving regional center of the relocation, as specified.
- AB 2107**      **Author/Title:** (Gorell) Preschool: Privately Funded Pilot Program: Tax Credits  
**Current Text:** Amended: 4/01/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 4/2/2014 - Assembly Revenue & Taxation Committee  
**Calendar:** 4/21/2014 1:30pm State Capitol, Room 126  
This bill would, until January 1, 2020, authorize the California Department of Education (CDE), as part of a pilot program, to accept monetary contributions made to the California Preschool Investment Fund, which this bill would create, by a person for purposes of preschool education. The bill would require the money to be only used to support specified families who reside in, and use, a preschool located in, a county determined by CDE to participate in the pilot program in the form of a subsidy for preschool services. The bill would require participating counties to report to CDE's Early Education & Support Division regarding the county's assessment of how the pilot program is performing and a list of preschools that were used by families who receive the subsidy. The bill would require any money remaining in the fund after January 1, 2020, to be transferred to any other state fund identified by CDE that provides funding for increased access to preschool programs for low-income children.
- AB 2125**      **Author/Title:** (Ridley-Thomas) Child Care: Standard Reimbursement Rate: Adjustment  
**Current Text:** Amended: 4/10/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 4/10/2014 - Assembly Education Committee  
**Calendar:** 4/23/2014 1:30pm State Capitol, Room 126  
Current law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to implement a plan that establishes reasonable standards and assigned reimbursement rates, as provided, and requires the standard reimbursement rate to be \$3,523 per unit of average daily enrollment for

a 250-day year, increased by the cost-of-living adjustment granted by the Legislature. This bill would delete these requirements relating to assigned reimbursement rates and reimbursement adjustments. The bill would delete references to the standard reimbursement rate and instead would require the reimbursement rate to reflect the actual current cost of care in each region per unit of average daily enrollment for a 250-day year.

- AB 2302**      **Author/Title:** (Mullin) Child Care and Developmental Services: Facilities  
**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/21/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 3/10/2014 - Assembly Education Committee  
**Calendar:** 4/23/2014 1:30pm State Capitol, Room 126  
This bill would provide that funding to the Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund shall be used for the renovation, repair, or improvement of an existing child care facility for lease to school districts and contracting agencies that provide child care and development services, and facilities that provide transitional kindergarten programs. The bill would extend the period of the lease from 10 years to 14 years.
- AB 2555**      **Author/Title:** (Bocanegra) Cradle-to-Career Initiatives: Report.  
**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/21/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 3/13/2014 - Assembly Education Committee  
**Calendar:** 4/23/2014 1:30pm State Capitol, Room 126  
This bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction, in conjunction with **First 5 California** and other specified entities, to develop a report exploring the feasibility of establishing and expanding cradle-to-career initiatives that are collective-impact strategies containing specified tenets. The bill would require the Superintendent to provide the Legislature with an interim status report by July 1, 2016, and to submit to the Legislature a final report by December 1, 2016.
- SB 648**  
(2 Year Bill)      **Author/Title:** (Corbett) Electronic Cigarettes: Restriction of Use and Advertising  
**Current Text:** Amended: 8/5/2013 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 8/16/2013 - Assembly Governmental Organizational Committee  
This bill would extend specified restrictions and prohibitions against the smoking of tobacco products to include electronic cigarettes. By including electronic cigarettes within the restricted and prohibited activity, the bill would change the definition of a crime with respect to certain facilities, thereby creating a state-mandated local program.
- SB 1248**      **Author/Title:** (Lara) Academic Achievement Gap  
**Current Text:** Amended: 3/24/2014 [pdf](#)  
**Status/Location:** 4/10/2014 - Senate Education Committee  
**Calendar:** 4/24/2014 Upon Adjournment of Session, State Capitol, Room 4203  
This bill would provide for the establishment of the Academic Achievement Gap Advisory Committee as an advisory committee to the State Board of Education. The bill would require the committee to, among other things, monitor the implementation of the local control funding formula, common core academic content standards, and Academic Performance Index standards, as they relate to closing the achievement gap, as defined, for pupils of color.



April 4, 2014

The Honorable Mike Gatto, Chair  
Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 1454 (CALDERON)  
AS AMENDED MARCH 17, 2014**

Dear Assemblymember Gatto:

The California Children and Families Commission (First 5 California) lends its strong support to AB 1454, which would require the California Department of Social Services to conduct annual unannounced licensing visits to all community care facilities.

First 5 California recognizes the primary purpose of unannounced site visits is to ensure licensed community care facilities are safe. Frequent visits provide opportunities for enhanced information sharing, to allow facilities to develop best practices, and to provide state and local agencies the ability to impart relevant and up-to-date information to the public regarding a facility's profile. These opportunities have the natural consequence of improving the over-all care administered by a facility.

Since its inception, First 5 California has been proactive in implementing its statewide mandate to develop and provide a variety of high-quality programs and educational resources that reach countless young children and families across the state. In that regard, First 5 California keenly understands the importance of protecting the health and safety of children in licensed community care settings. Promoting safe environments for young children is foundational to a child's health and development, and enhances school readiness.

Currently, the California Department of Social Services conducts compliance inspections on community care facilities at least once every five years, with an annual random sample of 30 percent of facilities. Unannounced annual inspections are conducted only when a facility has a history of compliance problems, which has resulted in annual inspections for only roughly 10 percent of facilities. However, in most cases, five years could pass before a residential facility is inspected by Community Care Licensing Division.

The Honorable Mike Gatto  
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This frequency of site visits is woefully inadequate to effectively protect the health and safety of our young children in community care settings. AB 1454 takes a significant step toward addressing the essential need to ensure these facilities are providing quality services necessary to guard and nurture California's most vulnerable population.

For these reasons, First 5 California respectfully requests your "Aye" vote on AB 1454. If you have any questions regarding First 5 California's position on AB 1454, please contact me at (916) 263-1050, or Frank Furtek, Chief Counsel, at (916) 263-1313.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Camille Maben". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Camille Maben  
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Ian Calderon, California State Assembly  
Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Jennifer Swenson, Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee



April 14, 2014

The Honorable Joan Buchanan, Chair  
Assembly Education Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2148  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 1902 (BONTA)  
AS AMENDED APRIL 9, 2014**

Dear Assemblymember Buchanan:

The California Children and Families Commission (First 5 California) lends its strong support to AB 1902, which would eliminate family fees for children who attend a part-day state preschool program.

Since its inception in 1998, First 5 California's primary mission has been to improve the lives of young children and their families in order to raise healthy kids ready to enter school and thrive. As part of this mission, First 5 California has made a significant investment in school readiness programs. Early learning programs are a major component of school readiness and such experiences enhance a child's success throughout school. Many at-risk children would benefit from an early education experience.

In the Governor's 2012-13 Budget, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction was required to assess a fee for families with children in part-day preschool programs. Prior to the 2012-13 Budget, families receiving part-day preschool services were exempt from this fee. Within the first six months of the fee implementation, approximately 5 percent of those enrolled in part-day preschool withdrew from the program and an additional 2,757 children did not enroll in the program after parents were informed of the fee.

The imposition of this fee has caused an undue burden on both families and on State Preschool programs. For low-income families eligible for state preschool services, even a few dollars per day to pay for these fees can impose significant cost resulting in fewer children receiving the high quality early education services they need in order to be ready for kindergarten, and to succeed in school and in life.

**CALIFORNIA CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

2389 GATEWAY OAKS DRIVE, SUITE 260, SACRAMENTO, CA 95833 • TEL 916/263-1050 • FAX 916/263-1360 • [WWW.CCFC.CA.GOV](http://WWW.CCFC.CA.GOV)

The Honorable Joan Buchanan, Chair  
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By abolishing fees for part-day state preschool programs, AB 1902 eliminates barriers and disruption to child development programs caused by the fees and provides children greater access to a free, public education, especially for California's most vulnerable children.

First 5 California supports efforts that promote school readiness and increase the quality of and access to learning for young children. By expanding opportunities for California children to attend preschool and receive developmentally appropriate assessments, AB 1902 furthers the goals of First 5 California.

For these reasons, First 5 California respectfully requests your "Aye" vote on AB 1902. If you have any questions regarding First 5 California's position on AB 1902, please contact me at (916) 263-1050, or Frank Furtek, Chief Counsel, at (916) 263-1313.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Camille Maben".

Camille Maben  
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Rob Bonta, California State Assembly  
Members of the Assembly Education Committee  
Sophia Kwong, Consultant, Assembly Education Committee



April 14, 2014

The Honorable Kevin de León, Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 5101  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1000 (MONNING)  
AS AMENDED MARCH 27, 2014**

Dear Senator de León:

The California Children and Families Commission (First 5 California) lends its strong support to SB 1000, which would establish the Sugar-Sweetened Beverages Safety Warning Act. The bill would require a warning label on all sugar-sweetened beverages sold in California, and would prohibit the sale or distribution of sugar-sweetened beverages unless the beverage container bears a safety warning.

First 5 California oversees the expenditure of revenues from tobacco taxes to support smoking prevention and child development programs for children prenatal to age 5. The programs' broadly defined goals are to promote, support, and improve child development through a variety of educational resources that emphasize family support, parent education, high-quality child care, and child health.

Since its inception in 1998, First 5 California's primary mission has been to improve the lives of young children and their families in order to raise healthy kids ready to enter school and thrive. As part of this mission, First 5 California has addressed the growing concern of childhood obesity and the impact it has on young children's bodies and minds through various means, including media campaigns and outreach programs. First 5 California's website devotes substantial attention to educating parents on healthy choices for children, including offering water and milk as healthier choices instead of sugary beverages like soda, fruit juices, and sports drinks.

Overwhelming science links obesity to the consumption of soda and other sugary drinks. A child's risk of obesity increases an average of 60 percent with each additional daily serving of soda or other sugary drink. A 2013 study found 19 percent of California children ages 2 to 5 consume at least one soda or other sugary drink every day. If the current obesity trends are not reversed, it is predicted one in three children will develop type 2 diabetes in their lifetime.

The Honorable Kevin de León, Chair  
April 14, 2014  
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One of the most successful public health interventions in recent years was the passage and implementation of comprehensive anti-tobacco policies, including product warning labels. SB 1000 builds upon the success of the anti-tobacco movement, which has shown health warnings increase knowledge and perceptions of risk, and can promote cessation of use among both youth and adults.

By warning consumers about the direct relationship between sugary drink consumption to obesity, diabetes, and tooth decay, First 5 California hopes consumers will make more informed and educated decisions, realizing the harmful effects sugary drink consumption has on children and their health.

For these reasons, First 5 California respectfully requests your "Aye" vote on SB 1000. If you have any questions regarding First 5 California's position on SB 1000, please contact me at (916) 263-1050, or Frank Furtek, Chief Counsel, at (916) 263-1313.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Camille Maben".

Camille Maben  
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable William Monning, California State Senate  
Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee  
Brendan McCarthy, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee