



April 12, 2023

INFORMATION ACTION

SUBJECT: STATE LEGISLATION AND BUDGET POSITIONS

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Staff will provide a state budget and legislative overview and request the Public Policy Advisory Committee provide insights based on their expertise. The following state budget and legislative bills align with First 5 California Mission Statement, North Star, and Audacious Goals, and the draft of the Young Children's State Policy Agenda.

Legislative Overview and Position Recommendations

As of February 17, 2023, a total of 2,632 bills were introduced for the 2023 California Legislative Session. There were 1,751 Assembly Bills (3 special session bills) introduced and 881 Senate Bills (3 special session bills). This year's comprehensive introductions are the highest in more than a decade.

Of those, there are 495 spot bills and 551 intent bills between the two houses, for 1,046 placeholder bills, meaning 40% of the introduced bills are placeholder measures. That figure is higher than the average of 1/3 in most years.

For comparison, the following is the list of the total number of bills introduced by the two chambers by the introduction deadline each February over the past few years:

- Total 2022 bill introductions as of the deadline: 2,020
- Total 2021 bill introductions as of the deadline: 2,369
- Total 2020 bill introductions as of the deadline: 2,203
- Total 2019 bill introductions as of the deadline: 2,576

Over the past two decades, more legislative bills have been introduced in the first year of a legislative session than in the second year. The deadline to amend spot bills was March 13, 2023, in the Assembly and March 22, 2023 in the Senate.

The November 2022 General Election also created a huge turnover in the State Legislature. Between redistricting, the General Election, and a bloc of legislators deciding not to seek re-election, 31 new Assemblymembers and 9 new Senators were sworn-in on December 5, 2022. First 5 California staff have begun conducting meetings with legislative offices to introduce the First 5 California's campaign on childhood behavioral health efforts and establish a connection with our new governmental relations team. The meetings provide First 5 California's staff an opportunity to learn about the legislative priorities of new members, many of whom had a great interest in creating laws in the spaces of reproductive health, 0-5 childhood development, and economic development opportunities.

The following legislators stood out as potential children and family champions:

- Assemblymember Corey Jackson (D-60, Perris) is leading the charge on a legislative childcare workgroup and is the chair of the Assembly Human Services Committee.
- Assemblymember Gregg Hart (D-37, Santa Barbara) owned and operated a preschool named Transitions Preschool for more than 20 years and is part of the legislative childcare workgroup.
- Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-20, Van Nuys) has introduced numerous bills that aim to benefit working families and children and is working on identifying funding sources for universal childcare.
- Senator Nancy Skinner (D-9, Berkeley) is the chair of the Women's Caucus and spearheading bills that relate to strengthening reproductive rights protections and gender affirming care.

First 5 California staff look forward to working with all state policymakers to support and implement public policies that aligned with our commission's efforts.

Build Resilient Families and Communities

[AB 524 \(Wicks\): Discrimination: family caregiver status](#)

Existing law, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), which is enforced by the Civil Rights Department, prohibits various forms of employment discrimination and recognizes the opportunity to seek, obtain, and hold employment without specified forms of discrimination as a civil right. The act also makes it an unlawful employment practice for an employer, among other things, to refuse to hire or employ a person because of various personal characteristics, conditions, or traits.

This bill would prohibit employment discrimination on account of family caregiver status, as defined, and would recognize the opportunity to seek, obtain, and hold employment without discrimination because of family caregiver status as a civil right, as specified.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Support efforts to ensure economic security and financial stability for families and children through:
– Expansion of paid family leave programs

Staff Recommendation: Support. Historically, First 5 California has supported efforts that expand access and usage of paid family leave programs.

Priority Level: 3

[AB 575 \(Papan\): Paid family leave](#)

Under existing law, the family temporary disability insurance program provides up to 8 weeks of wage replacement benefits to workers who take time off work to care for a seriously ill child, spouse, parent, domestic partner, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, or parent-in-law, to bond with a minor child within one year of the birth or placement of the child in connection with foster care or adoption, or who take time off to participate in a qualifying exigency related to the covered active duty or call to covered active duty of the individual's spouse, domestic partner, child, or parent in the Armed Forces of the United States. Existing law defines certain terms for these purposes. Existing law provides that a worker is not eligible for those benefits in specified circumstances, including, among others, if another family member is ready, willing, and able and available for the same period of time in a day that the individual is providing care or participating in the above-described qualifying exigency, as specified. Existing law authorizes an employer to require a worker to take up to 2 weeks of earned but unused vacation leave before receiving benefits under the program.

This bill would expand the program to provide benefits to workers who take time off work to bond with a minor child within one year of assuming responsibilities of a child in loco parentis. The bill would delete the above-described eligibility restriction relating to another family member being ready, willing, and able and available for the same period of time. The bill would delete the authorization for an employer to require a worker to take vacation leave before receiving benefits. The bill would make conforming changes.

By authorizing expenditure of these funds for a new purpose, this bill would make an appropriation.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Support efforts to ensure economic security and financial stability for families and children through:
– Expansion of paid family leave programs

Staff Recommendation: Support. Historically, First 5 California has supported efforts that expand access and usage of paid family leave programs.

Priority Level: 1

[AB 1128 \(Santiago\): Personal Income Tax Law: young child tax credit: qualifying child](#)

The Personal Income Tax Law allows a young child tax credit against the taxes imposed to a qualified taxpayer in a specified amount multiplied by the earned income tax credit adjustment factor, and allows a payment from the Tax Relief and Refund Account for an amount in excess of tax liability. Existing law defines “qualified taxpayer” for this purpose to include an eligible individual, as defined, who has a qualifying child, defined to be a child younger than 6 years of age as of the last day of the taxable year, and who meets other specified criteria.

This bill would remove the requirement that a qualifying child has to be younger than 6 years of age as of the last day of the taxable year. By increasing the payments from the Tax Relief and Refund Account, a continuously appropriated fund, the bill would make an appropriation.

This bill would additionally state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation that would allow taxpayers the option to choose to receive advance and periodic payments for the California Earned Income Tax Credit and the Young Child Tax Credit, and would state the intent of the Legislature to ensure those advance and periodic payments are not considered income or assets for purposes of determining eligibility for, or benefits pursuant to, any state or federal public assistance programs, as specified.

First 5 California’s Young Children’s Policy Agenda: Support efforts to ensure economic security and financial stability for families and children through:
– Creation and continuation of tax credits and incentives

Staff Recommendation: Support. Historically, First 5 California has supported efforts that expand tax credit and incentives to ensure family resiliency.

Priority Level: 1

[AB 1498 \(Gipson\): Personal Income Tax: Earned Income Tax Credit](#)

The Personal Income Tax Law, in modified conformity with federal income tax laws, allows an earned income tax credit against personal income tax and a payment from the Tax Relief and Refund Account for an allowable credit in excess of tax liability to an eligible individual that is equal to that portion of the earned income tax credit allowed by federal law, as determined by the earned income tax credit adjustment factor, as specified. The law provides that the amount of the credit is calculated as a percentage of the eligible individual’s earned income and is phased out above a specified amount as income increases, and provides alternative calculation factors under specified circumstances. Existing law, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and until and including the taxable year in which the minimum wage is set at \$15 per

hour, requires the phaseout percentage for eligible individuals to be recalculated by the Franchise Tax Board so that the calculated amount of credit for a taxpayer with an earned income of \$30,000 is equal to zero. Existing law allows a payment to an eligible individual from the Tax Relief and Refund Account, a continuously appropriated fund, for any amount of the credit in excess of tax liability, as provided.

This bill, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2023, if the amount of credit computed for an eligible individual is less than \$355, as specified, would allow the credit for the eligible individual to be \$355, except as otherwise specified.

Existing law requires the Controller to state an account with persons that receive funds or property belonging to the state and fail to properly render account thereof to the state, and persons that fail to pay to the State Treasury any money belonging to the state. Existing law requires the Controller to offset delinquent accounts against personal income tax refunds that have been certified by the Franchise Tax Board, subject to a specified priority. Existing law, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, prohibit the Controller from offsetting delinquent accounts against the personal income tax refunds of an individual who received the above-described earned income tax credit or the young child tax credit for the taxable year, except as specified.

This bill would state that the prohibition on the Controller from offsetting delinquent accounts against the personal income tax refunds of an individual who received the earned income tax credit or the young child tax credit for the taxable year includes advance or periodic payments of those credits.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Support efforts to ensure economic security and financial stability for families and children through:
– Creation and continuation of tax credits and incentives

Staff Recommendation: Support. Historically, First 5 California has supported efforts that expand tax credit and incentives to ensure family resiliency.

Priority Level: 1

[SB 600 \(Menjivar\): California CalFresh Minimum Benefit Adequacy Act of 2023](#)

Existing federal law provides for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), known in California as CalFresh, under which supplemental nutrition assistance benefits allocated to the state by the federal government are distributed to eligible individuals by each county. Existing law sets maximum allotment amounts by household size. Existing law, until July 1, 2024, requires the State Department of Social Services to create the Safe Drinking Water Supplemental Benefit Pilot Program to provide time-limited additional CalFresh nutrition benefits to residents of prioritized disadvantaged communities that are served by public water systems that consistently fail to meet primary drinking water standards.

This bill would, by January 1, 2025, require the department to establish the CalFresh Minimum Nutrition Benefit (MNB) Program to provide a household with a monthly CalFresh allotment of less than a minimum monthly benefit, established by the bill to be \$50, with an additional state-funded monthly MNB that is equal to the difference between their monthly CalFresh allotment and \$50. The bill would require the department to annually adjust the minimum monthly benefit amount, as prescribed, and would require these benefits to be delivered through the electronic benefits transfer (EBT) system. By imposing additional duties on counties administering the program, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Support efforts to ensure economic security and financial stability for families and children through:
–Investments in stable food and housing security

Staff Recommendation: Support

Priority Level: 1

[SB 242 \(Skinner\): California Hope, Opportunity, Perseverance, and Empowerment \(HOPE\) for Children Trust Account Program](#)

Existing law establishes various means-tested public social services programs administered by counties to provide eligible recipients with certain benefits, including, but not limited to, cash assistance under the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, nutrition assistance under the CalFresh program, and health care services under the Medi-Cal program.

This bill would, to the extent permitted by federal law, prohibit funds deposited and investment returns accrued in a HOPE trust fund account from being considered as income or assets when determining eligibility and benefit amount for any means-tested program until an eligible youth withdraws or transfers the funds from the HOPE trust fund account, as specified.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Support efforts to ensure economic security and financial stability for families and children through:
– Creation and continuation of tax credits and incentives

Staff Recommendation: Support. Historically, First 5 California has lead in supporting the California HOPE Program, which provides opportunities for family resiliency.

Priority Level: 1

Optimize Child Health

[AB 228 \(Wilson\): Infant formula stockpile](#)

This bill would require the State Department of Public Health and the Office of Emergency Services, in coordination with other state agencies as appropriate, to, upon appropriation and as necessary, establish an infant formula stockpile. The bill would require the department to establish guidelines for the procurement, management, and distribution of infant formula, taking into account, among other things, the amount of each type of infant formula that would be required to meet shortages, as specified. The bill would also establish the Infant Formula Advisory Committee-to, among other things, make recommendations for the development of guidelines for the procurement, management, and distribution of infant formula, specified, and advise the development and implementation of the program.

One of the nine representatives on the Committee would be a First 5 California representative.

The bill would require the committee to provide an annual report to the Legislature with feedback regarding the implementation of the program and updates regarding policy changes and public comments.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Support efforts to ensure that families and children have access to equitable and just health care coverage and services, that also include:

– Nutritional programs and services

Staff Recommendation: Monitor. Provide author and staff with information on the First 5 California's coordinated communication efforts to amplify the Governor's Office's and Department of Public Health's activation to procure supplies and distribution methods through local agencies.

Priority Level: NA

[AB 899 \(Muratsuchi\): Food safety: infant formula and baby food](#)

Existing law, the Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law, provides for the regulation of various subjects relating to the manufacturing, processing, labeling, advertising, and sale of food, drugs, and cosmetics, under the administration and enforcement of the State Department of Public Health. A violation of these provisions is punishable as a misdemeanor.

This bill would require *an in-state or out-of-state* manufacturer of infant formula or baby food for sale or distribution in this state to test their final infant formula or baby food *product, as defined*, for toxic heavy metals, *including levels of lead, mercury, cadmium, and arsenic*, and to make publicly available on its internet website the name and level of

toxic heavy metals present in the final infant formula or baby food product. The bill would also require those manufacturers to, for infant formula or baby food products for which the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has adopted industry guidance for levels of a certain toxic heavy metal, include a label on the product that it has been tested for that toxic heavy metal and is within the FDA guidance. By creating a new crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Ensure that families and children have access to equitable and just health care coverage and services, that also include:

- Nutritional programs and services

Staff Recommendation: Monitor

Priority Level: NA

[AB 935 \(Connolly\): Tobacco sales: phased tobacco ban](#)

Existing law licenses retailer sellers of cigarettes and tobacco products. Existing law prohibits a person from selling tobacco products to a person under 21 years of age. Existing law also prohibits a tobacco retailer from selling flavored tobacco products, as specified. Existing law prohibits smoking in various places, including government buildings, public transportation, schools, playgrounds, and workplaces.

This bill would implement a phased tobacco ban by prohibiting a tobacco retailer, as defined, from selling tobacco products, as defined, to any person born on or after January 1, 2007. The bill would clarify that it does not authorize the sale of tobacco products to any person born before January 1, 2007, that is otherwise prohibited. The bill would provide penalties for violations, including escalating civil fines and the suspension or revocation of the sellers license to sell tobacco products. The bill would require that enforcement of these provisions be the responsibility of the State Department of Public Health.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Support efforts to ensure that families and children have access to equitable and just health care coverage and services, that also include:

- Drug-related regulations and cessation programs

Staff Recommendation: Monitor

Priority Level: NA

[SB 635 \(Menjivar\): Early education and childcare](#)

Existing law, the Early Education Act, among other things, requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to administer all California state preschool programs, including, but not limited to, part-day and full-day age and developmentally appropriate programs for 3- and 4-year-old children. Existing law, the Child Care and Development Services Act, administered by the State Department of Social Services, establishes a system of child care and development services for children up to 13 years of age.

This bill would require a California state preschool program, and a child care and development program to, with consent from parents or legal guardians, screen each enrolled child who is 0 to 5 years of age, inclusive, with an Ages and Stages Questionnaire, and to report the information from the screening to the State Department of Education or State Department of Social Services, respectively.

The bill would require the program to refer the child's family to the appropriate regional center or other intervention service if the screening shows a need for services, and would, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, provide specified funding for the programs in supporting the administration, referral, and coordination of families to services. The bill would require the State Department of Education and the State Department of Social Services to establish a centralized billing point to draw down federal funding to pay for the costs of providing the screening, and to work with the State Department of Developmental Services, the State Department of Health Care Services, and the Office of the Surgeon General to establish memoranda of understanding and referral pathways to ensure identified children are receiving any needed intervention services, as specified.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Ensure that families and children have access to equitable and just health care coverage and services, that also include:

- Developmental screening

Staff Recommendation: Co-sponsor. First 5 California has a history of supporting efforts to expand early childhood developmental screenings and finding new pathways for families with young children to access services and programs is critical to ensuring prevention and early intervention so that every child can thrive. Additional co-sponsors include California Child Care and Resource Referral Network, EveryChild California, and First 5 San Bernardino County.

Priority Level: 1

Strengthen the State's Quality Early Learning Mixed-Delivery System

[AB 596 \(Reyes\): Early learning and care: rate reform/](#) [SB 380 \(Limón\): Early learning and care: rate reform](#)

Requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), in consultation with the California Department of Education (CDE), to develop and implement an alternative methodology for calculating subsidy payment rates for childcare and California State Preschool Program (CSPP) services, requires an equitable sliding scale for the payment of family fees be developed, and prohibits family fees from being collected until the sliding scale is implemented.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Promote access to safe, high-quality early care and education programs for infants, toddlers, and children through age 5 through via statewide rate reform efforts based on equitable and professional compensation, foster diversity in the field, and provide continuous professional development.

Staff Recommendation: Support. Historically, First 5 California has been part of efforts and statewide taskforces to improve the state's funding rate system to improve access and equity to high-quality early learning and care programs and services.

Priority Level: 1

[AB 731 \(Pacheco\): Pupil literacy: home book delivery: grant program](#)

Existing law establishes a system of public elementary and secondary schools in this state and authorizes local educational agencies throughout the state to operate schools and provide instruction to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive. Existing law establishes in the state government a State Department of Education and the department is responsible for various ongoing activities involving the public schools.

This bill would, upon appropriation by the Legislature for this purpose, establish the Home Book Delivery and School Connection Grant Program for the purpose of increasing access to books that are culturally relevant and reflect the diversity of the state, and build connections between school and home to support pupils in achieving grade-level reading by 3rd grade. The bill would require the department to select a county office of education or a consortium of county offices of education, as specified, to administer the grant program. The bill would require the selected entity or entities, to identify one or more entities to contract with in order to help administer the grant program and would require the selected entity or entities to target those school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools that have high proportions of pupils that are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, classified as English learners, or classified as foster youth, or are reading substantially below grade level to participate in the program.

The bill would authorize local educational agencies to opt-in their eligible schools for participation in the program and upon being chosen to participate, would require the local educational agencies to notify parents and families about the option to access and select books for home delivery and would require those local educational agencies to

provide an annual report on an unspecified date to the selected entity or entities that are chosen to administer the program, as provided.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Support effective and culturally appropriate parent education and engagement programs on child development and health, early literacy, and safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments.

Staff Recommendation: Monitor. The sponsor contacted First 5 California for a support position.

Priority Level: NA

[AB 1245 \(McCarty\): Community colleges: childcare providers: fee waivers](#)

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law requires the governing board of each community college district to charge students a fee of \$46 per unit per semester, and requires or authorizes, as provided, the governing board to waive that fee for certain students.

This bill would require community college districts to waive the fees for specified courses for students who are employed as childcare providers, as defined, at the time of enrollment. To the extent the bill would impose additional duties on community college districts, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Address workforce capacity needs of childcare providers, preschool, transitional kindergarten, and kindergarten educators and support staff through recruitment and retention initiatives, such as the development of micro-credentialing and apprenticeship programs, in partnership with community-based organizations, higher education institutions, and credentialing preparation programs.

Staff Recommendation: Support. Assemblymember McCarty's staff contacted First 5 California for a support position.

Priority Level: 2

[SB 767 \(Rubio\): Mandatory Kindergarten](#)

Existing law requires a school district maintaining a kindergarten to admit a child who will have their 5th birthday on or before September 1 of the school year. Existing law

also requires a child who will have their 6th birthday on or before September 1 of the school year to be admitted to the first grade of an elementary school. Existing law authorizes a child who has been lawfully admitted to a public school kindergarten or a private school kindergarten in California and who is judged by the administration of the school district to be ready for first-grade work to be admitted to the first grade, as specified.

SB 767 would require a child to have completed one year of kindergarten before that child may be admitted to the first grade at a public elementary school, except for a child who has been lawfully admitted to a public school kindergarten or a private school kindergarten in California, but has not yet completed one school year, and is judged to be ready for first-grade work, beginning with the 2024-25 school year.

This bill imposes a state-mandate on local educational agencies, which would require additional funds to Proposition 98 General Fund.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Support the implementation and expansion of high-quality early learning mixed-delivery system through collaborative efforts with federal, local, and state agencies and partners to meet families' needs and ensure every child is school ready.

Staff Recommendation: Support and work with the sponsor, Los Angeles Unified School District, to address the fiscal concerns articulated in the Governor's veto message of SB 70 by Senator Rubio. Last year, First 5 California supported SB 70 (Rubio), which passed the legislative process but was vetoed by Governor Newsom. Historically, First 5 California has supported this effort.

Priority Level: 1

Item 7(b): State Budget Overview and Position Recommendations

On January 10, 2023, Governor Newsom unveiled his 2023-24 state budget proposals, which includes total expenditures of \$296.9 billion, with a projected shortfall of \$29.5 billion in General Fund revenues. The state faces an estimated budget gap of \$22.5 billion in the 2023-24 fiscal year, which will require a more pragmatic approach to ensuring investments and services continue to prioritize children and families. In his budget press conference, Governor Newsom stated, "You can't have an economic development strategy without a workforce strategy, and you can't have a workforce strategy without a childcare strategy."

Below are Governor Newsom's budget investments and priorities that align with our agency's efforts of supporting a whole child, whole family, and whole community approach. Staff has provided recommended positions on these budget priorities.

Safe and Accessible Reproductive Health Care. The Budget maintains the over \$200 million investments to protect the right to safe and accessible reproductive health care,

including grants to health care providers to offset the cost of care to uninsured or underinsured individuals, for clinical infrastructure, and to provide scholarships and loan repayments to providers that commit to providing reproductive health care services. Further, the Budget adds \$200 million (\$15 million General Fund) in 2024-25 for a grant program focused on supporting access to family planning and related services, system transformation, capacity, and sustainability of California's safety net.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Ensure that families and children have access to equitable and just health care coverage and services.

Staff Recommendation: Support

Additional CalWORKs Support. The Budget includes over \$1 billion General Fund annually to provide increased cash assistance to individuals with disabilities and older adults in the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment program, and low-income children and families in the CalWORKs program.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Ensure that families and children have access to equitable and just health care coverage and services.

Staff Recommendation: Support

California's Behavioral Health Community-Based Continuum Demonstration. The Budget includes \$6.1 billion (\$314 million General Fund, \$175 million Mental Health Services Fund, \$2.1 billion Medi-Cal County Behavioral Health Fund, and \$3.5 billion federal funds) over five years for the Department of Health Care Services and the Department of Social Services to implement the Behavioral Health Community-Based Continuum Demonstration, effective January 1, 2024. A critical part of CalAIM, the Demonstration includes statewide and county opt-in components to expand behavioral health services and strengthen the continuum of mental health services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries living with serious mental illness and serious emotional disturbance, with a focus on children and youth, individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness, and justice-involved individuals.

The Demonstration will improve integration of medical, behavioral health and social services for foster children and youth, strengthen community-based services, clarify coverage for evidence-based therapies and home-based services for children and families, add critical treatment and supports, and build statewide centers of excellence to support practice transformations. Additionally, the Demonstration will allow counties to cover certain community-based services, such as supportive employment and rent and temporary housing for up to six months for certain high-need beneficiaries.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Ensure that families and children have access to equitable and just health care coverage and services.

Staff Recommendation: Support

Health and Human Services Innovation Accelerator Initiative. The Budget recognizes that an important approach to addressing the health of all Californians is to focus research and development on tools that directly address health disparities and ensure innovations are quickly accessible to all. This Health and Human Services Innovation Accelerator Initiative will seed a new entity and provide an initial investment so that researchers and developers can create solutions to the greatest health challenges facing Californians, such as targeting diabetes-related morbidity and mortality, addressing disparities in maternal and infant mortality faced by women and their babies, and preventing and mitigating infectious disease. This program will also create a State Innovation Transition Team within government to enhance innovation within safety-net programs. Funding for this initiative will be refined over the next few months and included in the May Revision.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Ensure that families and children have access to equitable and just health care coverage and services.

Staff Recommendation: Support

Community Health Workers Program. The Budget delays \$130 million General Fund in 2023-24 for the California 25x25 Initiative (Community Health Worker Initiative Grants in Health Care Access and Information) into out years. This program remains fully funded, but the funds would be provided later than initially anticipated including \$65 million in both 2024-25 and 2025-26.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Ensure that families and children have access to equitable and just health care coverage and services.

Staff Recommendation: Work with the Administration and Legislature to leverage First 5 California's efforts in promoting workforce development in the care industry that directly links to better supporting prenatal through age 5 childhood development and health services and programs, early childhood learning and literacy, and family resiliency efforts.

Refugee and Immigration Support. No state has invested more than California in these humanitarian efforts. However, California cannot continue to fund these efforts at scale without significant support from Congress. The federal government is responsible for immigration policies and processing, and Congress must invest in policies and sustainable infrastructure that ensures the right to asylum for those fleeing violence and persecution while supporting their safe passage through border regions and onto their destinations within the U.S. Local jurisdictions, including immigrant affairs offices and non-governmental organizations, are important partners in supporting the delivery of services. In the coming months, the Administration has announced that it will continue to work with the federal government, including Congress, to leverage additional federal resources and assess operational needs to inform a 2023-24 investment in these humanitarian efforts, which will be included as part of the May Revision.

First 5 California's Young Children's Policy Agenda: Improve accessibility and eligibility policies for family and children support services through local, state, and federal agencies coordination and streamline protocols that reduce participation barriers.

Staff Recommendation: Support

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The PPAC is a newly formed committee. As such, the Committee has not participated in this discussion.

ATTACHMENTS

None.