



April 25, 2019

<p>SUBJECT</p> <p>STATE AND FEDERAL BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE</p> <p>Strategic Priority Area 3. Public Will and Investment: Build public engagement in, investment in, and support of the optimal well-being and development of children prenatal through age 5, their families, and communities.</p> <p>Goal 3.2. Legislative Engagement and Leadership: Advocate for and influence policy change, both directly and in partnership with First 5 county commissions and other allies, from the local to federal levels that increase investments to improve conditions for children prenatal through age 5 and their families.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Information</p>
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SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

First 5 California (F5CA) staff will provide an update on the status of the 2019–20 State Legislative Session, including F5CA “Level 1” priority bills and F5CA-sponsored legislation. Staff also will provide information on the newly released Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education recommendations, and will supply a federal policy update.

RECOMMENDATION

F5CA staff is not requesting action at this time.

BACKGROUND OF KEY ISSUES

2019 California State Legislative Session

Since the January 2019 Commission meeting, the Commission’s Legislative Advisory Committee (LAC) has recommended positions for the following state legislation, consistent with F5CA’s 2019 Children’s Policy Agenda, which is used to analyze all state legislation introduced to date. The LAC will continue to review Level 1 bills and

newly amended bills for additional positions in the upcoming months. All F5CA letters of support are located on F5CA's [webpage](#).

Resilient Families and Communities

AB 406 (Limón) would require the Employment Development Department to distribute the application for family temporary disability insurance benefits, in addition to the application in English, in all non-English languages spoken by a substantial number of non-English-speaking applicants.

AB 500 (Gonzalez) would require the governing board of a school district, the governing body of a charter school, and the governing board of a community college district to provide at least 6 weeks of a leave of absence with full pay for a certificated employee, or an academic employee, of the district or charter school who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, and recovery from those conditions.

SB 321 (Mitchell) would require that specified information necessary to enroll or transfer a family into childcare services be made available by a county welfare department to a contractor that provides childcare services.

Child Health

AB 1004 (McCarty) would require, consistent with federal law, that screening services provided as an Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit include developmental screening services for individuals 0 to 3 years of age.

Early Learning

AB 1154 (Bonta) would establish the Early Care and Education Degree Pilot Program at four California State University campuses, to be administered by the Office of the Chancellor of the California State University, in consultation with the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, for five years commencing with the 2020–21 academic year.

SB 234 (Skinner), the Keeping Kids Close to Home Act, equalizes the permitting requirements for small and large family child care homes, clarifies that family child care is allowed in apartments and condos, and strengthens tenant protections for family child care providers so they can continue to offer early care and education for California's children, and support working parents.

Revenue and Governance

AB 378 (Limón) would authorize family child care providers to form, join, and participate in the activities of provider organizations, and to seek the certification of a provider organization to act as the representative for family child care providers on matters related to child care subsidy programs pursuant to a petition and election process overseen by the Public Employment Relations Board or a neutral 3rd party designated by the board. F5CA currently has a "support if amended" position on this bill.

AB 776 (Kalra) would enable a county office of education to issue and submit a unique statewide pupil identifier to the California Department of Education on behalf of any applicant or contracting agency that is not a local educational agency and that is operating a state-funded childcare and development program within that county, to be included as part of a longitudinal data system.

AB 887 (Kalra) would codify provisions of Governor Newsom's executive order to require the Governor to appoint a Surgeon General. The bill would require the Office of Health Equity to advise and assist other state departments in their mission to increase the general well-being of all Californians, and work toward eliminating adverse childhood experiences.

AB 1001 (Ting) would shift the makeup and structure of local planning councils in California, ensuring that all agencies who receive significant funding to operate or support early care and education (ECE) programs are included in local decision-making, aligning the local planning body with the newly created Quality Counts California structure, institutionalizing a relationship between ECE providers, K-12 providers, and higher education, giving counties the flexibility to merge and align quality investments and planning efforts, and tasking local planning bodies with addressing barriers to ECE expansion.

AB 1466 (Irwin) would require the Governor to convene a task force on the establishment of a statewide student longitudinal database, including early learning.

Attachment A is a list of all state legislation, introduced and amended by April 16, 2019, that are consistent with the policy agenda. All legislation and budget positions recommended by the Committee were adopted by the Executive Director, and will be tracked by F5CA staff for public letters and public testimony in legislative hearings consistent with the Commission position.

First 5 California Sponsored Legislation

In addition to the 18 bills that F5CA is actively tracking with support positions, F5CA is once again sponsoring legislation:

AB 125 (McCarty) and SB 174 (Leyva) would establish a single regionalized state reimbursement rate system—called The Child Care Stabilization Formula—for childcare, preschool, and early learning services. The methodology for this formula is based on the recommendations of the rate reform workgroup convened by F5CA over the past 18 months.

AB 324 (Aguiar-Curry), the Dion Aroner Child Care Workforce Act of 2019, would create streamlined standards for professional support stipends provided under the AB 212 program, based on the early care and education field's best practices to support teacher professional development and higher education attainment, and expand these stipends to more providers.

AB 1256 (Bonta) would authorize a learning readiness tool for California. Beginning in June 2019, the F5CA Commission will convene a series of stakeholder hearings to

learn about existing learning readiness measures being used in the state and nationally to inform this 2-year legislation.

SB 135 (Jackson) would expand state family leave job protections and create parity between bonding and sick leave eligibility in California. This bill also would expand the definition of family members for the purpose of caregiving to include a grandparent, grandchild, sibling, parent-in-law, child-in-law, or “designated person,” to allow for diverse caregiving needs and multigenerational families.

Blue Ribbon Commission Recommendations

After two years of informational hearings and robust stakeholder engagement, the Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education released their draft recommendations on building an early learning system that works for children, families, and providers. The Commission met quarterly and formed sub-committees on workforce, access, financing, and meeting the needs of families, to begin developing recommendations. The report outlines recommendations in nine key areas: Governance and Administration, Family Engagement, Access for Children and Families, Workforce, Quality Improvement, Systems and Infrastructure, Facilities and Supply, Coordination and Alignment, and Financing. The report reflects a comprehensive framework and calls for significant reforms around equity, two generation polices, and a laser focus on California’s children and families, and the ECE workforce. Attachment B is a summary of the Commission’s draft recommendations.

Federal Policy Update

Appropriations and Budget

On March 11, 2019, the Trump Administration released its budget proposal for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. President Trump’s proposed budget requests approximately \$8.8 billion in cuts to the Department of Education. This proposed budget represents a 12.5 percent decrease in the Department’s funding levels as compared to FY 2019. The proposed budget would eliminate 29 education programs, including Preschool Development Grants (PDG), afterschool programs, and Teacher Quality grants. The Administration proposes level funding the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), Head Start, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Preschool Grants, and IDEA Infant and Toddler Programs.

Congress will not move forward with its own budget resolution this year, and rather will begin moving legislation to increase spending above the statutory budget caps imposed by the Budget Control Act of 2011. Absent an increase in the spending cap, non-defense discretionary spending will be cut by \$54 billion, or about 9 percent, in FY 2020.

In the early childhood space, advocates are asking for a \$5 billion increase in CCDBG funding for this FY.

Provided below are FY 2019 funding levels, which maintained or increased funding for all ECE provisions:

- CCDBG
 - The FY 2019 bill appropriated a \$50 million increase over FY 2018 for CCDBG funding for a total of \$5.276 billion.
- Head Start
 - The FY 2019 bill appropriated a \$200 million increase for a total of \$10.1 billion.
- PDG
 - The FY 2019 bill maintained funding for PDG at \$250 million.
- Part C Infant and Toddler and 619 Preschool Grants
 - The FY 2019 bill maintained funding for Part C Infant and Toddler grants at \$470 million.

Census

The 2020 census is of critical importance to ECE advocates. Census data is used to distribute billions of dollars in funding, including for nutrition programs, Head Start, and maternal and child health services block grants. The 2010 census did not include close to 1 million young children, costing over a billion dollars each year in federal funding for these and other vital social programs. The proposed “citizenship question” raised on the 2020 census will only further this problem. Across the country, civil rights groups and advocates are challenging the addition of the citizenship question. The Supreme Court of the United States is scheduled to hear the case, *United States Department of Commerce v. New York, No. 18-966*, addressing the citizenship question on April 23, 2019.

ECE Bills to Watch in the 116th Congress

Child Care for Working Families Act (H.R.1364 and S.568)

The Child Care for Working Families Act would increase funding for child care centers, limit child care payments to 7 percent of a family’s annual income, guarantee child care assistance to families earning up to 150 percent of the median income in their state, and ensure that child care providers earn a living wage. This bill presents a north star for ECE advocates, providing bold and insightful legislation to rally around.

The American Family Act (H.R.1560 and S.690)

The American Family Act of 2019 would dramatically expand the child tax credit, which currently offers up to \$2,000 per year for families with significant earnings but little or nothing for many low-income families. It would pay \$3,600 per year, or \$300 per month, per child ages 0 to 5, and \$3,000 per year, or \$250 per month, per child ages 6 to 16. The benefits would be distributed monthly, in advance, so families could pace their spending and smooth their incomes. It is estimated that if enacted, this bold legislation would reduce child poverty by one third.

Paid Family Leave

Paid family leave is experiencing bipartisan support in Congress. While both parties have a drastically different vision of what paid family leave should look like, this provides an opportunity for advocates to shape the conversation. Paid family leave bills introduced in the 116th Congress include:

- The Family Act (H.R.1185 and S.463)

The Family Act would provide Americans up to 12 weeks of paid leave at 66 percent of their monthly wages. The proposal builds on an existing law, the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, which offers only unpaid leave. This law would institute a kind of family leave insurance, structured much like unemployment insurance. The funds would come from employee and employer payroll contributions of two-tenths of 1 percent, or approximately \$2.00 per week for a typical worker.

- The Cradle Act

The Cradle Act would allow workers to access a portion of their Social Security retirement income in advance to backfill some of the wages they would lose when taking parental leave. However, workers would bear the cost of taking leave by delaying their retirement by twice as many months as they took for parental leave. For example, under this proposed legislation, an individual who takes three months of leave, the maximum time allotted, would be required to delay their Social Security retirement by six months.

- The Federal Employee Paid Leave Act (H.R. 1534)

The Federal Employee Paid Leave Act would allow men and women to take paid leave following the birth, adoption, or fostering of a child, or to take care of a spouse or parent suffering from a serious health condition. Currently, federal employees are not offered federal paid family leave.

Head Start Waiver

California receives over one billion dollars annually in Head Start and Early Head Start contracts directly from the federal Department of Health and Human Services, for the provision of early learning programs for over 100,000 children. Many of these programs are blended with state subsidized child care programs, despite differing standards. Federal Head Start income eligibility is \$25,750 for a family of four, making Head Start eligibility nearly impossible for California families making minimum wage. To address this challenge, and to align Head Start age eligibility with California State Preschool age eligibility, California may pursue a federal waiver, under the leadership of Senator Diane Feinstein and Head Start California. California's waiver proposal will include increasing Head Start income eligibility to Medi-Cal income eligibility, and expanding Head Start age eligibility by three months to match California State Preschool eligibility. An estimated 300,000 additional children may qualify for Head Start in California if the waiver is approved. F5CA is working with the California County Superintendents

Educational Services Association and the Child Care Resource Center to support Head Start California's initiative.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The Legislative Update is a standing item for Commission discussion.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Priority Level 1 Bills of Interest
- B. Blue Ribbon Commission Recommendations Summary Draft



First 5 California Priority Level 1 Bills of Interest

Child Health

- [AB 66](#)** (**[Gonzalez D](#)**) **Sales and use taxes: exemption: diapers.**
Current Text: Amended: 3/4/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
Level 1 **Location:** 1/17/2019-A. REV. & TAX
Summary: until January 1, 2025, would sales and use taxes the gross receipts from the sale in this state of, and the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of, diapers for infants and toddlers.
- [AB 258](#)** (**[Jones-Sawyer D](#)**) **Pupil health: School-Based Pupil Support Services Program Act.**
Current Text: Amended: 4/1/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
Level 1 **Location:** 3/28/2019-A. HEALTH
Summary: The Healthy Start Support Services for Children Act requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to award grants to local educational agencies or consortia to fund programs in qualifying schools that provide support services, which include case-managed health, mental health, social, and academic support services, to eligible pupils and their families. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would increase in-school support services to pupils in order to break down barriers to academic success.
- [AB 842](#)** (**[Limón D](#)**) **Child nutrition: school, childcare, and preschool meals.**
Current Text: Amended: 4/2/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
Level 1 **Location:** 3/27/2019-A. APPR.
Summary: Current law sets the reimbursement rate for free or reduced-price meals served to needy pupils by family daycare homes at 75% of the meals served, and sets, for the 2018–19 fiscal year, the reimbursement a school receives for free and reduced-price meals sold or served to pupils in elementary, middle, or high schools at \$0.2368 per meal, and for meals served in childcare centers and homes at \$0.1764 per meal. This bill would require the reimbursement rate for meals served in schools and childcare centers and homes to be set at an equivalent rate, and would repeal the provisions setting the reimbursement rate for free or reduced-price meals served to needy pupils by family daycare homes at 75% of the meals served.
- [AB 1004](#)** (**[McCarty D](#)**) **Developmental screening services.**
Current Text: Introduced: 2/21/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
Level 1 **Location:** 4/9/2019-A. APPR.
Support **Summary:** Would require, consistent with federal law, that screening services provided as an EPSDT benefit include developmental screening services for individuals zero to 3 years of age, inclusive. The bill would require the department to ensure a Medi-Cal managed care plan's ability and readiness to perform these developmental screening services, and would require the department to adjust a Medi-Cal managed care plan's capitation rate, as specified. Until July 1, 2023, the bill would require an external quality review organization entity to annually review, survey, and report on managed care plan reporting and compliance with specified developmental screening tools and schedules.
- [SB 29](#)** (**[Durazo D](#)**) **Medi-Cal: eligibility.**
Current Text: Amended: 3/11/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
Level 1 **Location:** 3/20/2019-S. APPR.
Support **Summary:** The federal Medicaid program provisions prohibit payment to a state for medical assistance furnished to an alien who is not lawfully admitted for permanent residence or otherwise permanently residing in the United States under color of law. Current law requires individuals under 19 years of age enrolled in restricted-scope Medi-Cal at the time the Director of Health Care Services makes a determination that systems have been programmed for implementation of these provisions to be enrolled in the full scope of Medi-Cal benefits, if otherwise eligible, pursuant to an eligibility and enrollment plan, which includes outreach strategies. This bill would extend eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits to individuals of all ages who are otherwise eligible for those benefits but for their

immigration status, and would delete provisions delaying implementation until the director makes the determination as specified.

[Senate Appropriations Support Letter](#)

Early Learning and Care

AB 6 (Reyes D) Early childhood education: Early Childhood Education Branch.

Current Text: Amended: 4/2/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/9/2019-A. APPR.

Summary: Would establish in the State Department of Education, on or before January 1, 2021, the Early Childhood Education Branch, in order to ensure a holistic implementation of early childhood education programs and universal preschool. The bill would require the office to have specified responsibilities, including the responsibility of coordinating services with the State Department of Social Services and the California Health and Human Services Agency to ensure that social and health services are provided to children in early childhood education programs. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature to adequately finance the Early Childhood Education Branch when it is established.

AB 48 (O'Donnell D) Education finance: school facilities: Kindergarten-Community Colleges Public Education Facilities Bond Acts of 2020 and 2022.

Current Text: Amended: 4/11/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/11/2019-A. HIGHER ED.

Summary: The Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998 provides for the adoption of rules, regulations, and procedures, under the administration of the Director of General Services, for the allocation of state funds by the State Allocation Board for the construction and modernization of public school facilities. This bill would specifically authorize the allocation of state funds for the replacement of school buildings that are at least 75 years old, for specified assistance to small school districts, as defined, and for the testing and remediation of lead levels in water fountains and faucets used for drinking or preparing food on schoolsites.

Notes 1: only level 1 if amended to include preschool

AB 123 (McCarty D) Early childhood education: state preschool program: transitional kindergarten: access: standards.

Current Text: Amended: 3/26/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 3/25/2019-A. ED.

Summary: Would, commencing with the 2020–21 fiscal year, and notwithstanding any other law, authorize a provider operating a state preschool program within the attendance boundary of a public school, except as provided, where at least 70% of enrolled pupils are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, to enroll 4-year-old children meeting specified priorities. The bill would authorize any remaining slots to be open for enrollment to any other families otherwise not eligible, as provided. The bill would prohibit a state preschool classroom from exceeding 24 children.

AB 124 (McCarty D) Preschool Facilities Bond Act of 2020.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/3/2018 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 1/24/2019-A. ED.

Support

Summary: Would enact the Preschool Facilities Bond Act of 2020 which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$500,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a preschool facility grant program.

AB 125 (McCarty D) Early childhood education: reimbursement rates.

Current Text: Amended: 4/1/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/9/2019-A. ED.

Sponsor

Summary: The Child Care and Development Services Act establishes a system of childcare and development services for children up to 13 years of age. Current law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to implement a plan that establishes reasonable standards and assigned reimbursement rates, which vary with the length of the program year and the hours of service. Current law requires the reimbursement system to be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. This bill would require the Superintendent to implement a reimbursement system plan that establishes reasonable standards and assigned reimbursement rates that would vary with additional factors, including a quality adjustment factor to address the cost of staffing ratios, as provided.

[Assembly Education Support Letter](#)

[AB 167](#)

(Rubio, Blanca D) Childcare and development services: infants and toddlers: state funding.

Current Text: Amended: 4/3/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/9/2019-A. ED.

Summary: Would create the California Partnership for Infants and Toddlers, and would provide that a state grant to support the partnership shall be made available and distributed, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to qualifying childcare and development programs and family childcare home education networks that serve infants and toddlers from birth to 3 years of age at a supplemental grant amount of \$4,000 annually per child.

[AB 194](#)

(Reyes D) Childcare and development services.

Current Text: Amended: 3/19/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/9/2019-A. APPR.

Support

Summary: Would provide that \$1,000,000,000 shall be made available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to immediately improve access to alternative payment programs and general childcare and development programs.

[Assembly Human Services Support Letter](#)

[AB 197](#)

(Weber D) Full-day kindergarten.

Current Text: Amended: 3/20/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/3/2019-A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Support

Summary: Would require, commencing with the 2022–23 school year, schools in school districts offering kindergarten and charter schools serving pupils in early primary grades to implement a full-day kindergarten program, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program. The bill would provide that a minimum schoolday for full-day kindergarten is the same number of minutes per schoolday that is offered to pupils in 1st grade.

[Assembly Appropriations Support Letter](#)

[AB 324](#)

(Aguiar-Curry D) Childcare services: state subsidized childcare: professional support stipends.

Current Text: Amended: 4/2/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 3/26/2019-A. APPR.

Sponsor

Summary: Current law requires that moneys in a specified item of the Budget Act of 2000 be allocated to local child care and development planning councils based on the percentage of state-subsidized, center-based childcare funds received in the county in which the council is located, and requires that these funds be used to address the retention of qualified childcare employees in state-subsidized childcare centers. Current law authorizes these funds, and other specified funds, appropriated for these purposes, to be used in the County of Los Angeles if specified requirements met. This bill would delete the requirements that these funds be used in the County of Los Angeles and that the funds be unexpended after addressing the retention of qualified childcare employees, as provided.

[Assembly Human Services Support Letter](#)

[AB 452](#)

(Mullin D) Childcare: facilities: grants.

Current Text: Amended: 4/11/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/11/2019-A. ED.

Support

Summary: Current law requires that a local educational agency or a contracting agency using facilities purchased by the use of funds from the Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund be charged a leasing fee, as provided, over a 10-year period. Current law requires title to be transferred from the State of California to the local educational agency or contracting agency upon full repayment of the purchase and relocation costs. Current law requires the Superintendent to deposit all revenue derived from the lease payments or renovation or repair loan repayments into the Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund. This bill would repeal that loan program, except as provided, and would require all moneys in the Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund as of December 31, 2019, to be transferred to the California Childcare Facilities Grant Fund, which would be established by this bill to fund, upon an appropriation by the Legislature, a grant program administered by the State Department of Education.

[Assembly Education Support Letter](#)

[Assembly Human Services Support Letter](#)

[AB 776](#)

(Kalra D) Education data: pupil identifiers: childcare and development services.

Current Text: Amended: 4/11/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

- Level 1**
Support
- Location:** 4/11/2019-A. APPR.
Summary: Current law states the intent of the Legislature that the design and implementation of a high-quality, comprehensive, and longitudinal education data system for California do certain things, including that it support a system of continuous learning, as provided. This bill would state the intent the Legislature that the longitudinal education data system support a system of learning, from birth to higher education through career.
- AB 1154** **(Bonta D) California State University: Early care and education major pilot program.**
Current Text: Amended: 3/26/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
- Level 1**
Support
- Location:** 3/25/2019-A. HIGHER ED.
Summary: The Donahoe Higher Education Act sets forth, among other things, the missions and functions of California's public and independent segments of higher education and their respective institutions of higher education. Current law establishes the California State University under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University as one of the public segments of postsecondary education in this state. This bill would, upon appropriation in the Budget Act or another statute for this purpose, establish the Early Care and Education Degree Pilot Program at 4 California State University campuses, to be administered by the Office of the Chancellor of the California State University, in consultation with the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, for 5 years commencing with the 2020–21 academic year.
- AB 1256** **(Bonta D) Early childhood education: learning readiness measures: report.**
Current Text: Introduced: 2/21/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
- Level 1**
Sponsor
- Location:** 3/11/2019-A. ED.
Summary: Would require the Superintendent to provide a report to the Legislature and the Governor, no later than January 1, 2021, with recommendations to guide state policy on learning readiness measures, as provided.
[Assembly Education Support Letter](#)
- AB 1716** **(Kiley R) Family child care home education networks.**
Current Text: Introduced: 2/22/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
- Level 1**
- Location:** 3/18/2019-A. HUM. S.
Summary: Current law requires the family child care home education network programs to include certain components, including an assessment of each family child care home provider to ensure that services are of high quality and are educationally and developmentally appropriate. Current law imposes various requirements on family child care home education network contractors, including recruiting, enrolling, and certifying eligible families. This bill would additionally require family child care home education network contractors to offer providers at least 12 hours annually of training and technical assistance in group or individual settings.
- AB 1797** **(Smith D) State Department of Education: report: teacher induction.**
Current Text: Amended: 3/25/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
- Level 1**
- Location:** 3/21/2019-A. ED.
Summary: Would require the State Department of Education to submit a report providing recommendations on teacher induction and teacher credentialing to the Legislature and Governor on or before December 31, 2020.
- SB 2** **(Glazer D) Statewide Longitudinal Student Database.**
Current Text: Amended: 4/10/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
- Level 1**
- Location:** 4/3/2019-S. APPR.
Summary: Would express the intent of the Legislature to establish the Statewide Longitudinal Student Database to collect and store data regarding individual students as they matriculate from preschool through entry into the workforce. The bill would require the Office of Higher Education Coordination, Accountability, and Performance, proposed to be established by SB 3 of the 2019–20 Regular Session, to convene a review committee for purposes of advising the office on the establishment, implementation, funding, and ongoing administration of the database.
- SB 174** **(Leyva D) Early childhood education: reimbursement rates.**
Current Text: Amended: 3/20/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)
- Level 1**
Sponsor
- Location:** 2/6/2019-S. ED.
Summary: The Child Care and Development Services Act, Act establishes a system of childcare and development services for children up to 13 years of age, and requires the Superintendent of Public

Instruction to implement a plan establishing assigned reimbursement rates, per unit of average daily enrollment, to be paid by the state to provider agencies for the provision of those services. Existing law requires the Superintendent to implement a plan that establishes reasonable standards and assigned reimbursement rates, which vary with the length of the program year and the hours of service. This bill would require the Superintendent to implement a reimbursement system plan that establishes reasonable standards and assigned reimbursement rates that would vary with additional factors, including a quality adjustment factor to address the cost of staffing ratios, as provided.

[Senate Education Support Letter](#)

[SB 217](#)

(Portantino D) Special education: individuals with exceptional needs.

Current Text: Amended: 4/1/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/10/2019-S. APPR.

Summary: Would require, for the 2019–20 school year and each school year thereafter, a school district or charter school to admit a child to a transitional kindergarten program who will have their 5th birthday after December 2 but during that same school year if the child is an individual with exceptional needs, subject to specified conditions.

[SB 234](#)

(Skinner D) Family daycare homes.

Current Text: Amended: 4/9/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/9/2019-S. APPR.

Support

Summary: Under current law, a small family daycare home, which may provide care for up to 8 children, is considered a residential use of property for purposes of all local ordinances. Current law authorizes a city, county, or city and county to either classify a large family daycare home, which may provide care for up to 14 children, as residential use of the property or to provide a process for applying for a permit to use the property as a large family daycare home. This bill would instead require a large family daycare home to be treated as a residential use of property for purposes of all local ordinances.

[Senate Appropriations Support Letter](#)

[Senate Judiciary Support Letter](#)

Revenue and Governance

[AB 311](#)

(Frazier D) Regional centers: billing: daily rates.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/29/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/3/2019-A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Current law requires the Director of Developmental Services to establish, maintain, and revise, as necessary, an equitable process for setting rates of state payment for nonresidential services purchased by regional centers. Current law requires activity centers, adult development centers, behavior management programs, and other look-alike day programs with a daily rate to bill regional centers for services provided to consumers in terms of 1/2 days of service and full days of service, as defined, but authorizes a regional center to change the length of the declared and approved program day for a specific consumer in order to meet the needs of that consumer. This bill would repeal those provisions relating to daily rate billing.

[AB 378](#)

(Limón D) Childcare: family childcare providers: bargaining representative.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/5/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/4/2019-A. JUD.

Support if Amended

Summary: The Child Care and Development Services Act administered by the State Department of Education, requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to administer childcare and development programs that offer a full range of services for eligible children from infancy to 13 years of age, including, among others, resource and referral programs, alternative payment programs, and family childcare home education networks. This bill would authorize family childcare providers, as defined, to form, join, and participate in the activities of provider organizations, as defined, and to seek the certification of a provider organization to act as the representative for family childcare providers on matters related to childcare subsidy programs pursuant to a petition and election process overseen by the Public Employment Relations Board or a neutral 3rd party designated by the board.

[AB 576](#)

(Nazarian D) State Board of Equalization: transfer of duties.

Current Text: Amended: 3/21/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 3/21/2019-A. REV. & TAX

Watch

Summary: Would implement ACA 2 by transferring the remaining powers, duties, and responsibilities

of the Franchise Tax Board related to the administration of taxes imposed on property, insurance, and alcoholic beverages, and the duty to adjust the rate of motor vehicle fuel, to the department and the office, as provided. The bill would, for these purposes, also provide for the transfer to the department and the office of the board's employees serving in civil service, the rights and property of the board, and the board's funding, as provided.

[AB 739](#)

(McCarty D) Flavored tobacco products.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/19/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Watch

Location: 4/1/2019-A. G.O.

Summary: Would prohibit a tobacco retailer from selling, offering for sale, or possessing with the intent to sell or offer for sale, a flavored tobacco product, as defined. The bill would make a violation of this prohibition an infraction punishable by a fine of \$250 for each violation. The bill would state the intent of the Legislature that these provisions not be construed to preempt or prohibit the adoption and implementation of local ordinances related to the prohibition on the sale of flavored tobacco products. The bill would state that its provisions are severable.

[AB 887](#)

(Kalra D) Office of Health Equity: Surgeon General.

Current Text: Amended: 3/28/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Support

Location: 3/28/2019-A. HEALTH

Summary: Current law requires the State Department of Public Health to establish an Office of Health Equity for the purpose of aligning state resources, decisionmaking, and programs to accomplish specified goals, including, among other things, to advise and assist other state departments in their mission to increase access to, and the quality of, culturally and linguistically competent health and mental health care and services and to improve the health status of all populations and places, with a priority on eliminating health and mental health disparities and inequities. This bill would also require the office to advise and assist other state departments in their mission to increase the general well-being of all Californians, and would require the office to work toward eliminating adverse childhood experiences.

[AB 1001](#)

(Ting D) Child care: strategic planning councils.

Current Text: Amended: 4/12/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Support

Location: 4/9/2019-A. ED.

Summary: Current law requires a local planning council, by May 30 of each year, and upon approval by the county board of supervisors and the county superintendent of schools, to submit to the State Department of Education the local priorities it has identified that reflect all child care needs in the county, and requires the local planning council, in order to identify those local priorities, to do certain things, including, among others, encourage public input in the development of the priorities, collaborate with specified entities to foster partnerships designed to meet local child care needs, and conduct an assessment of child care needs in the county at least once every 5 years. Current law defines "child care" for purposes of these provisions to mean all licensed child care and development services and license-exempt child care for all children up to and including 12 years of age, as provided. This bill would rename "local planning council" to "strategic planning council" and would revise the definition of "child care" to include early childhood education services.

[AB 1466](#)

(Irwin D) State longitudinal education data system.

Current Text: Amended: 4/11/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Support

Location: 4/11/2019-A. HIGHER ED.

Summary: Current law establishes the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System and requires a local educational agency to retain all data necessary to compile reports required by specified federal laws, including, but not limited to, dropout and graduation rates. This bill would, upon an appropriation in the Budget Act or another statute for this purpose, require the Governor to convene a taskforce on the establishment of a statewide student longitudinal database. The taskforce would include representatives of elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education systems and employee groups in the state and of specified state agencies.

[SB 421](#)

(Pan D) Children's Cabinet of California.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/21/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/9/2019-S. G.O.

Summary: Would establish the Children's Cabinet of California to consist of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Secretary of California Health and Human Services, and the head of each agency and department within the state that provides services for, or has jurisdiction over the well-being of, children, and would set forth its powers and duties, including promoting and implementing information sharing, collaboration, increased efficiency, and improved service delivery among and

within the state's child-serving agencies, departments, and organizations.

[SB 614](#) (Rubio D) Early childhood education: county offices of education: grant program.

Current Text: Amended: 4/11/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1 Location: 4/10/2019-S. HUM. S.

Summary: Would establish the Inclusive Early Childhood Education Grant Program for the purpose of increasing access to early childhood education programs. The bill would require the State Department of Education's Special Education Division and Early Learning and Care Division, in consultation and coordination with the State Department of Developmental Services, to administer the program, including developing criteria for proposals, selecting grantees, and collecting specified data. The bill would require an applicant to be a county office of education and to include specified information in its grant application.

Strong and Engaged Families

[AB 22](#) (Burke D) Housing: safe and clean shelter for children.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/3/2018 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1 Location: 1/17/2019-A. H. & C.D.

Summary: Current law establishes the Department of Housing and Community Development in the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency, and requires the department to administer various housing programs throughout the state, including programs that address the needs of homeless individuals and families, and reviewing local ordinances for the design, development, and operation of homeless shelters in cities and counties that have declared a shelter crisis. This bill would declare that it is the policy of the state that every child has the right to safe and clean shelter and that no child should be without safe and clean shelter by 2025.

[AB 24](#) (Burke D) Personal income taxes: Targeted Child Tax Credit.

Current Text: Amended: 3/26/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1 Location: 3/25/2019-A. REV. & TAX

Support

Summary: Would, under the Personal Income Tax Law, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, allow a qualified taxpayer, as defined, a Targeted Child Tax Credit (TCTC), in an amount equal to the difference between the qualified taxpayer's net resources, as defined, and a specified percentage of the poverty threshold, as provided, using the California Poverty Measure, as defined. The bill would require the credit amount in excess of the qualified taxpayer's liability to be paid to the taxpayer upon appropriation by the Legislature, as provided.

[AB 196](#) (Gonzalez D) Paid family leave.

Current Text: Amended: 3/26/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1 Location: 3/25/2019-A. INS.

Summary: Would revise the formula for determining benefits available pursuant to the family temporary disability insurance program, for periods of disability commencing after January 1, 2020, by redefining the weekly benefit amount to be equal to 100% of the wages paid to an individual for employment by employers during the quarter of the individual's disability base period in which these wages were highest, divided by 13, but not exceeding the maximum workers' compensation temporary disability indemnity weekly benefit amount established by the Department of Industrial Relations.

[AB 350](#) (Choi R) Personal income taxes: deduction: 529 college savings plans: contributions.

Current Text: Amended: 3/19/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1 Location: 2/11/2019-A. REV. & TAX

Summary: Would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, would allow as a deduction under the Personal Income Tax Law the lesser of (1) the amount contributed by a qualified taxpayer, as defined, to a qualified tuition program, as specified, or (2) \$6,000 for spouses filing joint returns, heads of households, and surviving spouses, as defined, or \$3,000 for a single individual or a spouse filing separately, as indexed for inflation.

[AB 372](#) (Voepel R) State employees: Infant at Work programs.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/5/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1 Location: 2/15/2019-A. P.E. & R.

Summary: Would authorize a state agency, as defined, to adopt an Infant at Work program to allow an employee of the agency who is a new parent or caregiver to an infant to bring the infant to the

workplace. The bill would establish certain required elements for such a program. The bill would authorize a state agency to adopt regulations that it determines necessary to establish the program. The bill would prohibit a state agency from adopting the program in circumstances that are inappropriate based on safety, health, or other concerns for the infant or adult, as specified.

[AB 406](#)

(Limón D) Disability compensation: paid family leave: application in non-English languages.

Current Text: Amended: 3/26/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 3/25/2019-A. INS.

Support

Summary: Current law establishes, within the state disability insurance program administered by the Employment Development Department, a family temporary disability insurance program, also known as the paid family leave program, for the provision of wage replacement benefits to workers who take time off work to care for a seriously ill family member or to bond with a minor child within one year of birth or placement, as specified. This bill would require the department to distribute the application for family temporary disability insurance benefits, in addition to the application in English, in all non-English languages spoken by a substantial number of non-English-speaking applicants.

[AB 500](#)

(Gonzalez D) School and community college employees: paid maternity leave.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/13/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/11/2019-A. APPR.

Support

Summary: Would require the governing board of a school district, the governing body of a charter school, and the governing board of a community college district to provide at least 6 weeks of a leave of absence with full pay for a certificated employee, or an academic employee, of the district or charter school who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, and recovery from those conditions. The bill would authorize the paid leave to begin before and continue after childbirth if the employee is actually disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related condition.

[AB 577](#)

(Eggman D) Medi-Cal: maternal mental health.

Current Text: Amended: 3/26/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 3/26/2019-A. APPR.

Summary: Would extend Medi-Cal eligibility for a pregnant individual who is receiving health care coverage under the Medi-Cal program, or another specified program, and who has been diagnosed with a maternal mental health condition, for a period of one year following the last day of the individual's pregnancy if the individual complies with certain requirements. The bill would define "maternal mental health condition" for purposes of the bill.

[AB 1070](#)

(Arambula D) CalWORKs Home Visiting Initiative.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/21/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 2/21/2019-A. PRINT

Summary: Would state in the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would expand eligibility for the CalWORKs Home Visiting Initiative to all parents served through the CalWORKs program and applicants deemed apparently eligible for CalWORKs.

[ACR 1](#)

(Bonta D) Immigration: public charges.

Current Text: Amended: 3/6/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/3/2019-S. HUM. S.

Support

Summary: This measure would condemn regulations proposed by the Department of Homeland Security to prescribe how a determination of inadmissibility for a person who is not a citizen or national is made based on the likelihood that the person will become a public charge. This measure would also urge the federal government to reconsider and roll back the proposed regulations.

[Assembly Human Services Support Letter](#)

[SB 26](#)

(Caballero D) Personal income taxes: working families child care tax credit.

Current Text: Amended: 3/18/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/3/2019-S. APPR.

Summary: Would require, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025, for a taxpayer with an allowable credit for household and dependent care expenses necessary for gainful employment in excess of tax liability, a payment from the Tax Relief and Refund Account, a continuously appropriated account, to the taxpayer equal to the amount of the allowable credit that is in excess of tax liability, as provided. By authorizing additional payments from this account, the bill would make an appropriation.

[SB 135](#)

(Jackson D) Paid family leave.

Current Text: Amended: 3/25/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Sponsor

Location: 4/3/2019-S. L., P.E. & R.

Summary: Current law prohibits an employer with 50 or more employees in a 75-mile radius to refuse to grant an employee a request to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for family care and medical leave if the employee worked 1,250 hours in the prior 12 months. Current law includes within "family care and medical leave" the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of a child and the serious health condition of the employee's child, parent, or spouse. This bill would expand the scope of those provisions to instead prohibit an employer with 5 or more employees to refuse to grant an employee a request to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for family care and medical leave if the employee had 180 days of service with the employer.

[Senate Labor, Public Employment & Retirement Support Letter](#)

[SB 142](#)

(Wiener D) Employees: lactation accommodation.

Current Text: Amended: 4/11/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Location: 4/11/2019-S. HOUSING

Summary: Would require the California Building Standards Commission to adopt prescribed mandatory building standards for the installation of lactation space for employees in nonresidential buildings newly constructed or remodeled for workplace occupancy, as specified, when there is a tenant improvement project to the building and certain criteria are met.

[SB 321](#)

(Mitchell D) CalWORKs: supportive services: childcare.

Current Text: Amended: 4/1/2019 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Level 1

Support

Location: 4/9/2019-S. ED.

Summary: Would require that specified information necessary to enroll or transfer a family into childcare services be made available by a county welfare department to a contractor that provides childcare services. The bill would require, beginning no later than November 1, 2020, a county welfare department to provide a monthly report to stage-2 contractors containing specified information. The bill would authorize a county welfare department to provide training on security protocols and confidentiality of individual family data to a contractor who is given access to data pursuant to those provisions.

[Senate Education Support Letter](#)

[Senate Human Services Support Letter](#)

Total Measures: 47

Total Tracking Forms: 47



CA Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education Summary of Recommendations

*****DRAFT*****

March 11, 2019

The Blue Ribbon Commission report is comprised of the topics listed below, beginning with an 18-page summary. Detailed Recommendations follow the Summary.

1. Governance and Administration
2. Family Engagement
3. Access for Children and Families
4. Workforce
5. Quality Improvement
6. Systems and Infrastructure
7. Facilities and Supply
8. Coordination and Alignment
9. Financing
10. Parent Focus Group Recommendation Summary

1. Governance and Administration

- A. As we state in our Principles, governance structures must be transparent, accountable, collaborative, and committed to equity, continuous improvement, and responsive to emerging needs. Decisions must be informed by ongoing evaluation, robust data, and current research. Parents, the early care and education workforce, local and state partners, and other stakeholders must be key participants in all aspects of governance.
- B. Establish an inclusive Early Childhood Policy Council (ECPC) to advise the Legislature, Governor and Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). Appointments will be made by the Assembly, Senate, Governor, and SPI. The Advisory Committee should include parents, providers, and other stakeholders. It will be charged with developing and advancing the state's vision for children, families and communities, monitoring the evolution to a family first culture and using a strong equity lens to guide implementation based on agreed principles

and goals. It would replace current advisory bodies. Adequate staff and budget would be provided.

- C. Establish a Parent Advisory Council (PAC) including current and former recipients of subsidized child care and other parents to provide recommendations and develop partnerships. To support the best outcomes for the *whole family*. The PAC will be strongly represented on the ECPC. Staff and financial support for participants will be provided.
- D. Establish a Workforce Advisory Council (WAC) including providers from all settings, provider organizations, center directors, other stakeholders with expertise in workforce issues to oversee plans to compensate and grow the Workforce. WAC will be represented on the ECPC and staff and support for participants will be provided.
- E. Establish an augmented Division or Office for Early Childhood Education (OCE) in CDE with sufficient resources and staff to implement recommendations.
- F. To align administration and coordinate services OCE shall establish an Interagency Agency Workgroup to implement changes and coordinate among agencies, which will also report to the Governor, Legislative oversight committees, and the ECPC.
- G. Maintain strong Legislative leadership and oversight including robust engagement with the Legislative Women's Caucus, which is bicameral, and Policy and Budget Committees in each house.

2. Family Engagement

- A. Engagement is a two-way street, which recognizes parents as experts and includes joint decision-making. The Blue Ribbon Commission has worked to keep families at the center of our deliberations by inviting parents to be expert witnesses at BRC public hearings, holding focus groups across the state and challenging ourselves to think more deeply about how the voices of both parents and providers can effectively participate.
- B. The state should acknowledge the importance of parent voices in policy development and program improvement by establishing and funding formal bodies at the state and local level. No new program or policy should be implemented without the input of parents who are directly affected. Establish a Parents Advisory Council (PAC) as described in the Governance recommendations.
- C. Ongoing processes should be developed to address the agency culture shaped by scarcity of resources and a compliance mentality and transform it into a culture of continuous quality improvement that welcomes family, provider and community voices.
- D. We need to train and support everyone to recognize and address implicit bias based on race and poverty so that all families are valued, respected, and invited to participate.

3. Access for Children and Families:

- A. Universal goal: California families at or below the State Median Income (SMI) would pay no more than 7% of their income on early care and education for children under the age of 6, regardless of whether they have access to subsidized child care, the state preschool program, or a federally funded program.¹
- B. Short-term goal: Families at or below 100% Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) with a need for child care will be guaranteed subsidies or ECE program access and will pay no fees.
- C. Mid-term goal (1): Families at or below 70% SMI with a need for child care will be guaranteed subsidies or ECE program access and will pay fees on a sliding scale.
- D. Mid-Term goal (2): Families at or below 85% SMI with a need for child care will be guaranteed subsidies or ECE program access and will pay fees on a sliding scale.
- E. Establish a dedicated AP Emergency Services Fund for immediate access to care, expedited eligibility, and navigation, with contracted slots available for homeless families or those at risk of homelessness, resource parents, other children under supervision of CWS, parenting transitioning former foster youth, foster youth, unaccompanied minors and others applying for refugee status and families facing dislocation and crisis as a result of domestic violence.
- F. Increase equity and eradicate systemic barriers by prioritizing investments for children and families most at risk. Use Targeted Universalism process to develop a ten-year plan to meet universal goals first targeting the most excluded then evaluating and adjusting policies and investments.
- G. Redefine “need” for ECE in all state funded programs so that children’s need for ECE and continuity of care is prioritized. Families should not lose access to care when work hours are changed or other challenges occur.
- H. Immediate Goal: Prioritize increased investment and remove barriers to increase access for infants and toddlers to ECE focusing first on low-income families or those facing barriers.
- I. Expand access to full-day preschool and ECE for all 3 and 4-year olds, beginning with those in low-income families or others facing barriers.
- J. The state should ensure that every child receives early developmental screening. Screening must be tied to increasing access to early intervention services for the most vulnerable.

¹ The federal Child Care for Working Families Bill guarantees federal child care assistance to working families with children birth to 13 earning up to 150 percent of SMI and establishes a sliding fee scale for families from 75 percent of SMI to 150 percent of SMI so that no family pays more than 7 percent of their family income on child care. We see our state-based proposals as a bold step towards that goal.

- K. Expand effective access to Head Start (HS) for federally eligible 3- and 4-year-old children by using state funds to expand HS program to full-day, full-year for all those meeting HS eligibility.
- L. Children's well-being is inextricably connected with the well-being of their family. Increase access for all low-income families while targeting those facing challenges.
- M. Targeted families and children – Equality is not Equity.
 - i. Children and families in poverty including CalWORKs: streamline administration and provide more flexibility in ECE need; provide 12 months of ECE upon initiating CalWORKs grant.
 - ii. Racial inequity: Increase flexible options for families relying on low-wage jobs. Integrate anti-bias in evaluation, training, coaching and other interventions. Definitions of quality must elevate standards on diversity or alternative concepts of quality.
 - iii. Dual-Language Learners (DLLs): Increase language access and cultural competence, remove systemic barriers due to cultural and linguistic bias and expand investments in professional development opportunities to support all DLL children.
 - iv. Immigrant Families: Remove barriers due to complicated eligibility and enrollment processes and work with experts to evaluate and understand how best to advocate against harmful proposed changes in federal policy.
 - v. Children with Disabilities, Mental Health and other Special Health Care Needs: In the long-term, ensure early identification and early intervention for all young children. Establish an inclusive task force with strong parental and provider representation to reform and oversee our bifurcated funding and administrative system. Eliminate racial disparities in provision of services and disproportionality in discipline practices.
 - vi. Tribal Child Care: Ensure culturally appropriate and fair intake processes, referral systems that clearly recognize parental choice, culturally responsive outreach, and inclusion of tribal populations, tribal child care, and tribal communities. A cultural/community broker should be available and resources should promote cultural awareness and inclusion of tribal children and families.
 - vii. Children and Families Connected to CWS: As the Families in Crisis program is implemented, expand the Emergency Child are Bridge and provide access for parenting transitioning former foster youth or foster youth to age 26.

- viii. Migrant Families: Clarify practice and if required reform migrant child care regulations to not require a parent to relocate to remain eligible for services.
 - ix. Young Parents: Evaluate and where needed expand CalSAFE (currently subsumed in LCCF) and CalLearn programs.
 - x. Children with Incarcerated and Recently Released Parents: Incentivize on-site ECE programs in transitional housing and connect parents to child care resources and subsidy information as part of the reunification plan.
- N. Affirmative outreach on ECE and child wellbeing should be provided in multiple languages, through cultural navigators and utilizing mobile technology and YouTube channels.
- O. Reinstate the CDE-administered California Supplement to the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program and remove unnecessary burdens for agencies and providers.
- P. Encourage family friendly workplaces including paid sick leave.

4. **Workforce**

- A. Equity and Diversity: Examine racial disparities in compensation and career advancement and develop targeted solutions. Establish supports and systems to optimize all providers' ability to meet the diverse needs of children and families, including working with dual-language learners, supporting culturally responsive practice, and providing trauma-informed care and instruction.
- B. Establish an inclusive Workforce Advisory Council connected to the EC Policy Council as described in governance.
- C. Support collective bargaining rights for family child care home (FCCH) providers, both licensed and family friend and neighbor.
- D. Standards for the ECE workforce cannot be increased until compensation levels are raised.
- E. Compensation and Support
- i. Title 5 programs: Ensure salary parity with K-3rd grade for those with comparable education and experience with competitive benefit packages including health dental, vision, 20 days paid time off annually, and retirement contribution.
 - ii. Title 22 programs: For those participating in state funded programs, their salary should have parity with K-3rd grade for those with comparable education and experience with competitive compensation increasing with education, training and quality improvement, and competitive benefit packages including health, dental, vision, 20 days paid time off, and retirement contribution.

- iii. Develop guidelines and provide incentives to licensed family child care homes who wish to specialize in care of infants and toddlers by establishing a specialized reimbursement rate for those with demonstrated experience and specialized training.
 - iv. Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN): For those participating in state funded programs immediately make the compensation floor the state minimum wage and provide benefits for those working an annual average of 20 hours per week- include 20 days paid time off and support for purchase of health, dental, and vision insurance.
 - v. The state should increase support for local programs serving all FFN providers including community hubs, library programs, apps, online and mobile-based resources.
 - vi. FFN providers, receiving state funds, should be offered training, a higher reimbursement rate for improving quality, coaching and mentoring to serve children with special needs, and pathways to licensing or a certification.
- F. Competency-Based Permitting and Certification: Implementation should include realistic, phased-in timelines with necessary support and compensation, drawing where appropriate on current efforts such as the Commission for Teacher Credentialing (CTC) with attention to both the incoming and incumbent workforces in all settings.
- i. Streamline and simplify current educator and caregiver competencies to focus on essential adult practices that improve child outcomes.
 - ii. Measure and monitor competencies: create a competency-based assessment that allows applicants to demonstrate that they possess competencies.
 - iii. Establish and adequately fund a competency-based system that spans preparation, certification, and pre- and in-service training to improve quality and inform practice, and preparation should include supervised field experience.
- G. Professional Development for Center Teachers and Licensed FCCH providers:
- i. The incumbent ECE workforce in publicly funded programs should bear no cost for increasing competencies and the entering workforce should be assisted to limit costs.
 - ii. Professional development, including coaching and mentoring, must focus on strengthening educator and caregiver competencies.
 - iii. Invest in proven apprenticeship models to professionalize the early learning workforce by enhancing skills and knowledge while simultaneously increasing their compensation.
 - iv. Invest in a range of appropriate supports that allow people from a wide spectrum of cultural, educational, and financial backgrounds, including: (1) scholarships; (2) tutoring; (3) conveniently scheduled and located classes; (4) education advisors; (5) resources for

students learning English as a second language; and (6) the availability of courses and books in languages in addition to English.

5. Quality Improvement

- A. Build on work by Quality Counts California (QCC) and the QCC state consortia and establish an expanded work group to grow, review, and revise the current quality improvement and standards systems.
- B. Support continuous quality improvement through assessment, identifying valid diagnostic and summative assessments that predict children's later skills and use assessments to guide instruction and inform policy decisions and to provide information on outcomes for families.
- C. Ensure implicit bias based on race and ethnicity or any other factor is recognized as quality standards are developed and in the implementation any quality improvement programs. Review evaluation criteria and outcomes to ensure criteria are culturally relevant to diverse populations and do not unduly disadvantage a protected class.
- D. Work Force Related Quality Improvement
 - i. Expand and develop effective Family Child Care Home Education Networks (FCCHENs).
 - ii. Increase the capacity of the Community College and State University systems to enable them to expand accessibility and range of programs offered.
 - iii. Focus ECE degree programs on particular areas such as (1) DLLs; (2) children with disabilities and special health care needs; (3) infants and toddlers; (4) trauma informed care; and (5) interactions that support children's cognitive and linguistic development.
 - iv. Tie reimbursements to higher quality standards after the state provides sufficient funding and makes them accessible to family child care homes and FFN providers.
 - v. Assess effectiveness of federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) quality expenditures and fund those found to have the most effective outcomes.
- E. Higher Education Systems
 - i. Provide adequate funding for the Community College and State University systems to enable them to expand accessibility and range of programs to reflect current research on child development and defined competencies.
 - ii. Support higher education faculty and administrators to better meet the preparation and professional development needs including supervised clinical experience.
 - iii. Focus ECE degree programs on particular areas such as (1) DLLs; (2) children with disabilities and special health care needs; (3) infants and toddlers; (4) trauma-informed

care; and (5) adult-child interactions that support children's cognitive and linguistic development.

- iv. Invest in a range of appropriate supports that allow people from a wide spectrum of cultural, educational, and financial backgrounds to access professional development opportunities, including conveniently scheduled and located classes, education advisors, and resources, including courses and books for students learning English as a second language.

6. Systems and Infrastructure

A. Responsive Integrated Systems

- i. California's vision for ECE, size and diversity require a complex system.
- ii. Three key culture changes are essential:
 - a. We must use an equity lens in every aspect of our work.
 - b. Our compliance-based system is a major source of inefficiency and undue complexity and we must reverse policy and change culture.
 - c. Lack of state level interagency communication leads to unneeded duplication and barriers for families. We call for a robust ECE Advisory Council partnering with an Interagency Task Force to coordinate implementation (see Governance).

B. Alignment and streamlining

- i. Align and streamline to better serve children and families, changing the culture so it is based on their needs rather than mistrust and compliance-based contracts. Prioritize continuity of care and align DSS and CDE regulations in instances that will benefit families, including those relating to providers living in the home and those for FFN care.
- ii. Align and streamline for agencies and providers moving to multi-year grants, alignment of approvals across funding streams and address regulatory inconsistencies created by different program applications, application timelines, reimbursement rates, and earning structures to significantly reduce administrative burdens.
- iii. Title V regulations around provider reimbursements should be simplified and structured to reflect common practices in the private pay world such as required notice periods, closure days beyond 10, and flat monthly payment amounts.
- iv. Modernize the TrustLine application process by allowing applicants to apply, pay their application fee, and check their status online.
- v. Create flexibility across all systems to allow and incentivize programs to offer care for families who have variable schedules and/or work outside the school day schedule.

C. Transparency, Accountability, and Integrated Data Systems

- i. Ongoing data collection and mapping should identify geographic disparities and child care deserts on an ongoing basis and develop proposals with an equity lens to incentivize creation of supply particularly in child care deserts. New funding should be directed to areas of greatest need and we should consider contracts and other incentives to develop resources in areas with little supply.
- ii. Track utilization rates and movement between ECE programs funded by federal, state and local funds and identify legislative and regulatory barriers in order to align programs, increase continuity of care, and make it easier for families to negotiate existing systems. Align intra-agency data at CDE between ECE programs. Encourage braiding and leveraging of funds from multiple sources by simplifying and streamlining reporting requirements, including data definitions and coding.
- iii. Decrease barriers to linking administrative data across systems and build on existing administrative data systems to provide timely data on the array of federal, state and locally funded programs serving families with young children. Use linked administrative data to support cross-agency planning, inform decision-making and guide resource allocation based on key outcomes for children. Engage universities and other research partners with government to support continuous quality improvement and outcomes and track results for children and families.
- iv. Build public will by making data and information about California's ECE system readily available to the public. Provide public access to important and timely information on California's ECE system by creating an online portal with relevant information on the state's comprehensive child care and development service system.

D. Licensing

- i. The Legislature and Governor should establish a process to review California's licensing standards, recommend improvements and integration with quality improvement efforts and define clear consistent mandates across all licensed early care and education settings and develop adequate resources to ensure Community Care Licensing (CCL) can meet its charge.
- ii. Expand CCL staff capacity and establish clear guidelines and timelines so that applications for new providers and/or expansion can be completed in a timely manner.

E. Disaster Preparedness

- i. Relevant State Agencies (CDE, DSS/CCL and OES) should convene a task force for advance disaster preparedness planning based on the 2016 Child Care Disaster Preparedness Plan and recent lessons.

- ii. State Agencies and Service providers including CDE, DSS and Resource and Referral agencies should convene a collaborative, cross-agency task force with designated, clear roles that assumes responsibility in time of disaster with dedicated staff (dedicated only during/post disaster) who become the point persons at each agency at the state and local level.
- iii. Local organizations and agencies at the regional, county, sub-county, and city level should have dedicated resources to prepare for a disaster and preparedness should include state supported provision of training and materials readily accessible on-line.

F. Rate Reform

- i. The BRC concurs with the multi-step recommendations of the Rates Working Group, convened by First 5 California, to implement comprehensive rate reform through a multi-step process. Their recommendations are moving towards a heavier emphasis on the true cost of providing quality child care, preschool and early learning experiences and address equity issues by refining the RMR survey and future rate-setting methodologies.
- ii. In the long-term, the reimbursement rates for Title 5 and 22 programs should include competitive compensation that increases with quality improvement and as detailed in the Workforce recommendations.
- iii. In the near term, the reimbursement rates for Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) should make the compensation floor the state minimum wage as detailed in the Workforce recommendations.
- iv. Prioritize analysis of the costs and as necessary provide additional incentives to increase access for targeted children and families including children with disabilities, infants and toddlers, children in care deserts including rural areas, care during nontraditional hours and children entering care through the Emergency Services Fund.

7. Facilities and Supply

- A. Map state facilities needs to ensure equity in spending new funds including needs for infants and toddlers, isolated rural areas, and other special populations and match facility needs with available space that can be converted, such as unused schools as well as funding new construction.
- B. The state should establish a targeted facilities grant program directed to communities and families with greatest need with multi-year investment priorities. The targeted facility grant program should provide appropriate funding and support for all aspects of our mixed delivery system.
 - i. For subsidized child care centers, provide the facility, equipment, and staff recruitment start-up costs necessary to open new classrooms or to convert existing child care spaces to serve different age groups.

- ii. For licensed family child care, provide funds to meet licensing and quality standards to serve subsidized children and those with greatest need. Determine criteria for grants to private businesses based on receipt of public funds and meeting identified needs of targeted communities and families/children.
 - iii. Create a fund for FFN providers, who wish to be licensed, to pay for licensing fees, zoning processes, and facility alterations.
 - iv. Include Head Start in all mapping analysis and provide opportunities to participate in state and local funded facility programs including those for one-time grants for building or renovating early childhood facilities.
- C. Simplify the process to build new facilities and to expand existing facilities including zoning, building codes and permit processes; streamline state and local licensing and other requirements.
- D. Establish statewide program learning from successful models to share best practices and provide materials, technical assistance on facility planning, development and financing, and facility quality assessment and improvement. Include appropriate services for FCCH and FFN providers.
- E. ECE Supply including geographic disparities
- i. Ongoing data collection and mapping should identify geographic disparities and child care deserts on an ongoing basis and develop proposals with an equity lens.
 - ii. Incentivize creation of supply to address inequities.
 - a. New funding should be directed to areas of greatest need including projected growth of number of children and those facing challenges; ensure growth for all programs while addressing disparities.
 - b. Consider increased contracts to develop supply in areas of greatest need.
 - c. Workforce development resources should target areas of greatest need.
 - iii. Target Quality Counts support and funding to areas of low supply and areas of need.
 - iv. California's rural counties face the lowest access to quality child care because of geographic challenges. FCCHs should be incentivized to fill the need in these areas.

8. Coordination and Alignment

A. TK-12 Articulation

- i. Barriers to district participation in preschool and child care programs should be mitigated, including coordination and greater alignment of schedules, facility regulations, and other barriers, while maintaining requirements which serve the needs of children and families for full-day, full-year care.

- ii. Barriers and disincentives should be examined and alleviated to encourage local educational agencies to contract with state and federally funded community-based birth to 5 providers.
 - iii. Targeted support programs should be made available to children who face special challenges and who do not have access to child care or preschool programs, with formal transition plans including assessment, early intervention, and summer programs on the school site.
 - iv. Build partnerships between school district programs and our mixed delivery systems. Leverage the connections with county offices of education and the First 5 Commissions and build partnerships between statewide education advocacy organizations and early care and education associations.
 - v. Staff qualifications, ratios and, developmentally appropriate practices for children birth to age 5 should be analyzed and, where necessary, changed to ensure that children thrive and all outcomes, including social and emotional, are improved.
- B. First 5 is an essential partner for child development and family strengthening services for two-generation systems change.
- i. First 5 should be a member of the State Early Childhood Advisory Council and a partner in systems change in areas of their focus including home visiting, Dual-Language Learners and Quality Counts.
 - ii. First 5 will be a key partner on the Task Force to reform our bifurcated funding and administrative system serving children with disabilities and special health care needs. Specifically, the Task Force should partner with the First 5 Association and its initiatives on early intervention.
- C. Tribal Child Care
- i. State and local agencies need to track and report publicly to ensure families who request services (tribal or non-tribal) in tribal communities are receiving them.
 - ii. Quality improvement systems and Health and safety requirements should reflect the needs of tribal communities and assessment should build upon the current strengths.
 - iii. Support should be provided to tribal communities for outreach and engagement activities within tribal communities by tribal organizations/tribal governments and local needs assessment should be inclusive of tribal child care and communities.
- D. Head Start
- i. Expand access to Head Start for federally eligible 3 and 4-year-old children by using state funds to expand HS program to full day, full year for all those meeting HS eligibility.

- ii. Support Head Start home visiting funding and permit Head Start agencies to receive MIECHV funding to support home visiting.
- iii. Simplify ECE regulations. 66% of Head Start agencies also have state preschool contracts. Align state regulations with Head Start requirements.
- iv. Apply for a waiver to current Head Start income and age eligibility.

E. Business

- i. The governing and planning entities charged with implementing the BRC Recommendations should coordinate with Business and Business organizations encouraging their support for ECE policy investment and other family supports to prepare our future workforce for the 21st century.
- ii. Business should be encouraged to develop family friendly scheduling, offer flexible spending accounts, and share information on community ECE programs and other family supports such as PFL and eligibility for tax credits and subsidies.

F. Local Funding Sources and Coordination

- i. Each region, county or sub-county area should have an effective local coordinating body that does local needs assessments; collects data, identifies equity goals and implementation for targeted resources and policies; supports local innovation, coordinate local partnerships and evaluate local efforts. This body should have robust parent and provider as well as agency and local government involvement. They should be linked to state bodies. The state should adequately support these bodies including stipends for parents and providers to participate.

G. Integrate Services for Families with Children from Birth to Age Five

- i. Paid Family Leave should be expanded to one year of job-protection and paid family leave (PFL) for bonding and caregiving with benefits high enough to replace 100% of wages of low-wage workers and subsidies for low-income families not currently eligible.
- ii. Home Visiting Programs: Coordinate development of an integrated birth to five system statewide that addresses the multiple needs of families including a variety of evidence-based models, supporting culturally and language appropriate models. Ensure ECE and home visiting staff are cross-trained and can make appropriate referrals.

9. Financing

- A. Long-term goal: Create an adequate and sustainable financing structure for all subcommittee recommendations including equitable access to early care and education for all families while targeting those most separated from opportunity, settings that meet their

needs and definition of high quality and are affordable; a well-compensated, professionally supported diverse workforce; and necessary facilities, systems, and infrastructure.

- B. The BRC approached new funding with commitment to not reducing current funding for other important programs. We do not propose to take funding away from existing programs but rather to identify additional financing options for consideration by the BRC. The BRC does not believe in taking current funds needed by our TK-12 partners.
- C. Family contribution: Our recommendations for family share are detailed in the Access section but in summary we recommend:
- i. Universal goal: California families at or below the SMI would pay no more than 7% of their income on early care and education for children under the age of 6.²
 - ii. Short-term goal: Families at or below 100% Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) with a need for child care will be guaranteed access and will pay no fees.
 - iii. Mid-term goal: Families at or below 70% SMI with a need for child care will be guaranteed subsidies or ECE program access and will pay fees on a sliding scale.
 - iv. Long Term goal: Families at or below 85% SMI with a need for child care will be guaranteed subsidies or ECE program access and will pay fees on a sliding scale.
 - v. Long term goal: Make the state Child and Dependent Care Credit fully refundable, tied to cost of living increases, and increased over time to meet long-term affordability goals.
- D. State Funding
- i. Fund Paid Family Leave policies by eliminating the cap on the current taxable wage base of \$114,967.
 - ii. Establish a dedicated funding stream with new funds to establish a Families in Crisis Fund for immediate access to care (See Access recommendations).
 - iii. The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission should work with ECE stakeholders including First 5s to examine MHSA funding to ensure that we are maximizing early intervention funds.
- E. Federal Funding for ECE
- i. Many of these proposals align with the comprehensive and visionary federal legislation, The Child Care for Working Families Act, S. 568, introduced February 26, 2019, by

² The federal Child Care for Working Families Bill guarantees federal child care assistance to working families with children birth to 13 earning up to 150 percent of SMI and establishes a sliding fee scale for families from 75 percent of SMI to 150 percent of SMI so that no family pays more than 7 percent of their family income on child care. We see our state based proposals as a bold step towards that goal.

Senator Murray and Rep. Scott, with 131 cosponsors including Senators Feinstein and Harris.

- ii. The Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency should prepare a report to the Legislature, Governor and SPI by December 2019 outlining all federal opportunities including Medi-Cal to draw down federal funding to meet the goals outlined by the BRC and identify areas where new regulatory, legislative, or other action is required to maximize federal funding.
- iii. Head Start is the largest single source of federal funding at \$1.152 billion in California in 2016-2017. Maximize state receipt of Head Start funding.
- iv. TANF: California should maximize the use for CalWORKs grants, ECE, and other direct services to families and children in the CalWORKs system.
- v. CCDBG: While funding has been increased, it is still does not meet the need and we should actively encourage our federal delegation to increase CCDBG funding.
- vi. Special Education Funding (see Task Force recommendations in Access).

F. Integrating and Maximizing Funding Sources

- i. Funding Children with Disabilities and Special Health Care needs: Establish a Task Force with strong parental and provider representation to reform our bifurcated funding and administrative system building on the work of the State's 2015 Special Education Task Force (see Access Recommendations).
- ii. We should develop effective strategies and statewide requirements for counties and managed care providers to ensure Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) is funding periodic screenings and identified needed treatment. Counties should be incentivized to develop best practices and county-level solutions in partnership with TK-12, First 5, and other child-serving county-based entities.
- iii. Federal Law requires mental health plans to provide specialty mental health services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries, including both adults and children. Enforce and ensure that EPSDT is available pursuant to federal law.
- iv. Immediately establish policies and invest resources to ensure California meets the federal Early Start and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C (early interventions for infants and toddlers birth to three) requirements in terms of procedures, timelines, and child outcomes. In addition, review current definitions of what constitutes a developmental disability or delay.

10. Parent Focus Groups Summary

This is a summary from four Focus Groups held by Parent Voices in October and November 2018, in the Bay Area, Inglewood, San Fernando Valley, and Fresno.

A. Learning about Child Care

1. Advertise child care resources in easily accessible places such as hospitals, buses, doctor's offices, and television. This outreach should be provided in multiple languages and through cultural navigators.
2. Train prenatal doctors to inform parents about child care options and connect them with social services and child care resource and referral agencies.
3. Similar to a Lamaze or child birthing class, create a workshop for parents that includes information about available child care and social services, understanding child development, and non-violent empathy skills to address challenging behaviors.

B. Applying for a Child Care Subsidy

4. Allow parents sign up for a child care subsidy when they are pregnant.
5. Allow for automatic child care authorizations upon approval of CalWORKs to remove delays in child care access.
6. Have child care case managers and resource & referral counselors at county welfare offices streamline and speed up child care authorizations.
7. Create an emergency child care subsidy program for victims of domestic violence, homeless, or at risk of neglect and abuse.

C. Recertifying and Determining Subsidy Eligibility

8. Create a seamless paperwork process for moving from Stage 1 to Stage 2, when adding a second child to an existing subsidy, and when transferring child care subsidies across counties.
9. Ensure that subsidies follow parents across counties; parents do not need to reapply if they move to a new county.
10. Streamline recertification paperwork so that employment can be verified through pay stubs and tax returns.
11. Remove parent needs requirements and follow the child to determine eligibility. Allow all recertification to be provided via electronic means.

D. Determining how Much Parents should pay for Child Care

12. Increase the reimbursement rates of the subsidy to better reflect local costs of living.
13. Mandate paid family leave for one to two years, with the first year being at 100% of the parent's income. Paid family leave should be based on the city where you work, not the headquarters of the company which could be out of state.
14. Do not count one-time bonuses toward parents' income.

15. Allow deductions (such as housing costs and medical insurance) when applying for child care or when assessing family fees. Policies should be consistent with other social service programs.
16. Improve the quality of county social services offices through offering child care onsite, outdoor playgrounds, breastfeeding facilities, and gender-neutral bathrooms.
17. Ensure forms are gender neutral and more inclusive for LGBTQIA+ families.
18. Mandate ongoing empathy and sensitivity training for case workers and child care subsidy case managers.
19. Ensure case managers are offering travel time allotments that truly reflect parents' travel times rather than a 30-minute general allotment.

E. Ensuring High Quality Child Care Environments

20. Improve the timeliness and quality of child care facility inspections.
21. Facilitate partnerships between providers and child development organizations to offer parenting courses at the provider's location.

F. Supporting Child Care Providers

22. Incentivize individuals and offer pathways to become providers, especially in rural areas and for bilingual providers.
23. Mandate ongoing education for child care providers and provide training for providers while offering additional pay for meeting these requirements.
24. Increase salaries for both exempt and non-exempt child care providers.

G. Selecting the Right Provider

25. Provide easily accessible online child care facility records so parents can easily access any reported complaints or violations.
26. Offer support for parents when selecting providers. For example, facilitate parent meet ups to discuss child care options and advertise counseling services for selecting a provider.
27. Develop an application or online database that provides more comprehensive information about child care providers in parents' communities. Information could allow a parent to filter based on: (a) whether the provider take subsidies or not; (b) if the provider has current availability; (c) provider hours of operation; (d) whether the provider offers meals or diapers; (e) if the provider offers care on nights or weekends; and (f) the languages spoken in the facility. Provider profiles could include pictures and videos of the program, philosophy of the provider, certifications and educational background, background checks, easy link to licensing for violations, and reviews by parents who have used the program. Parents could also apply for child care assistance online.

H. Reforming Existing Policies

28. Clarify or reform migrant child care regulations to not require a parent to move out of the county within 12 months to remain eligible for services.

29. Enforce and implement 2017 policy changes around variable income and 12-month eligibility.
30. Increase funding for child care so families are not on waiting lists, can access services without enrolling in CalWORKs, and gaps in service provision are minimized.
31. Offer support for students pursuing a Master's degree; allow parents to receive beyond two semesters of support.