



Legislative Update

May 21, 2010

Child Care Resource & Referral:

***AB 2463 (Brownley) – Child Care Resource & Referral**

The intent of this legislation is to provide clarifying language in the education code related to child care resource & referral services. This bill would require a child care resource and referral program to provide training and workshops relating to child care services, community resource assistance, and to collaborate with and assist other community agencies in planning, coordinating, and improving child care. The bill would require a resource and referral program to provide basic child care referrals, as defined, at no cost. The bill clarifies the Child Care Initiative Project- Quality Plan and State Plan and would establish the Growing, Learning, Caring Project to foster and improve the quality of child care in all settings, including child care settings that are exempt from licensing requirements. It requires local child care R&R programs to provide data on child care supply and demand to the State Network for statewide data compilation. The bill would require resource and referral programs to review and process trustline applications for in-home or license-exempt home-based child care providers who are being paid through state-funded child care subsidies. The bill would delete provisions authorizing a resource and referral program to provide short-term respite care. **Status: Assembly Appropriations Suspense, 5/28. Network position- Sponsor**

Child Care Subsidy:

AB 315 (DeLeon)- Child Care Provider Payment Schedule (Sponsored by the United Child Care Union)

Requires the SDE to consider developing guidelines for Alternative Payment Programs on specific matters. In developing regulations, they shall consider, timeliness of payments, due process and complaint process, completion of attendance records, manner of issuing payments, timeliness of notification when a child is no longer eligible to receive subsidies and administrative recourse and penalties for late payments to providers. If a penalty is assessed against an AP, it can only use administrative and support service funds. **Status: Senate. Network position- Monitor**

***SB 244 (Wright)- Child Care and Development: High Risk Children Priority**

Gives first priority for enrollment in subsidized child care programs to specified high-risk children 0 – 5 years of age in addition to those in child protective services. Requires that they use licensed child care programs to receive the subsidy. **Status: Assembly Rules, re-referred to Assembly Human Services. Network Position: Monitor and work with sponsors and other statewide organizations.**

*SB 1099 (Correa) - Foster Care: Child Care Funding

Allows counties to use child care and development funds received from CDE as a match for foster care funds used to provide subsidized child care for children receiving protective services, foster children, or children at risk for abuse and neglect. Notes that if state funds are used for the Title IV-E match then it requires the county to 1) contract with a local CDE-CDD contractor 2) claim child care cost for eligible Title IV-E family at the regionally based market rate 3) provide the full federal Title IV-E funding to the local child development contractor to enroll children identified by the county for CPS, foster care or children at risk 4) consult with CDE to ensure that CDD contractor is in good standing, funds should be used to enhance the State Department of Education, and that the contractor does not double charge for the same services. **Status: Senate Appropriations, 5/27.**

*SB 1225 (Yee) - San Francisco individualized county child care subsidy plan

Extends the operation of San Francisco's individualized child care subsidy plan until June 30, 2016, and would require the city and county to phase out the plan by January 1, 2018. Requires the city and county to demonstrate an increase in earned child days of enrollment by the end of the first fiscal year of operation. Their plan must be submitted to and approved by the Child Development Division of the Department of Education. The bill would require the city and county, on or before December 31, 2016, to submit a final report to the Legislature that summarizes the impact of the plan. **Status: Senate Appropriations suspense, 5/27. Network Position: Support**

Community Care Licensing:

*AB 2084 (Brownley) - Child day care facilities: Nutrition

Requires a licensed child day care facility to follow specified guidelines relating to the provision of beverages (milk, juice & water). Includes the exclusion of a child, with documentation from a physician, from any of the requirements (e.g., 1% milk or nonfat milk, no beverages with added sweetener) if the child's health would be adversely affected. Includes new findings and declarations and notes that if a child has a medical necessity for "medical food" documented by a physician or if a parent or guardian provides a beverage then the provider is exempted from the requirements of this bill as it relates to the child/ren involved. **Status: Assembly Appropriations, pass from committee 5/19, Assembly third reading. Network Position: Support**

*SB 1116 (Huff)- Heritage Schools

Defines heritage schools as programs that serve school age children that attend a full-day public or private school and educates children to speak a foreign language and learn about a foreign culture and customs. Heritage schools would be required to comply with fingerprinting and criminal record checks applicable to private schools and to file an affidavit with the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Requires the director of a heritage school to complete at least 15 hours of health and safety training and employees and volunteers to be in good health. It requires notification to parents that the school does not have a child care license. Includes a fee of \$100 for initial affidavit filing and for each subsequent filing with of fee of \$55 to be deposited in the Heritage Enrichment Resource Fund. **Amended to limit the fee for affidavit filing to the cost of the department in administering the program. Status: Senate Floor**

Preschool, Kindergarten & Early Learning:

***AB 1683 (Torres) – Preschool Priority**

Gives priority for state preschool to children who have a parent under the jurisdiction or who were under the jurisdiction of the dependency or delinquency court within the last six months. **Status: Assembly Appropriations Suspense, 5/28.**

***AB 1967 (Mendoza) - Pupil admission: kindergarten and first grade**

Changes the date for kindergarten entrance to September 1 beginning in 2012 and for first grade beginning in 2013. It would provide school districts that maintain pre-k programs that are no longer eligible for kindergarten enrollment the funding that they would otherwise have received. To compensate school districts for the loss in average daily attendance resulting from this change, the bill would increase funding to the schools. Changes language “prekindergarten” to “transitional kindergarten program”, which refers to year one of a two-year kindergarten program using a modified kindergarten curriculum. **Status: Assembly Appropriations suspense, 5/28. Network Position: Monitor**

***AB 2252 (Torrico)- Universal Preschool**

Appropriates enough funding to enroll all 3 and 4 year olds who meet eligibility requirements in state preschool beginning July 1, 2012. Expresses the intent of the Legislature to impose a tax for this purpose. **Status: Assembly Appropriations suspense, 5/28.**

***AB 2553 (Brownley) - Child development services: school readiness**

Expresses the intent of the Legislature to establish a state-wide kindergarten readiness data collection tool to guide and inform instruction and local readiness efforts. Establishes guidelines and specifies stakeholders for collaboration in the development of the tool. **Status: Assembly Appropriations suspense, 5/28.**

***AB 2592 (Buchanan) - Early Learning Quality Improvement System**

Requires the CDE implement a quality rating and improvement system based on the recommendations of the Early Learning Quality Improvement System Advisory Committee’s recommendations and require the newly formed ELAC to annually review the system and provide recommendations for improvement. **Status: Assembly Appropriations, 5/28.**

***SB 1381 (Simitian) - Kindergarten Readiness Pilot Program**

Changes the kindergarten and first grade entry age progressively beginning in 2011-12 through 2014-15 back by one month each year. It would also state the intent of the Legislature to allocate ½ of the savings from the enrollment age for the state preschool program. Expresses the intent that children not eligible for kindergarten be allowed to participate in state preschool. **Status: Senate Appropriations suspense, 5/27. Network Position: Monitor**

ACR 154 (Fuentes) – Universal Preschool Week

Proclaims the fourth week of April each year as Universal Preschool Week to include activities that educate Californians about the value of preschool and encourage parents to enroll their 3- and-4 year old children in preschool programs. **Status: Assembly Rules**

School-Age Child Care: (The California School Age Consortium supports all these bills unless noted otherwise)

AB 434 (Block)- After School Program: Matching Funds

Reduces the amount of cash or in-kind local funds required by each ASES program for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 fiscal years to 15% including the local match that can be fulfilled in part by providing facilities space. Authorizes the cost of a program site supervisor selected under the ASES Program Act of 2002 to be included as direct services, provided that at least 85% of the site supervisor's time is spent at the program site. **Status: Senate Appropriations. Network position- Monitor**

***AB 1831 (Solorio) – After School: English Learners**

Requires the program plan to describe support for English learners if they comprise 25% or more of the enrolled children. Includes specific strategies for inclusion in the plan. Requires technical assistance provided by CDE to include training and professional development in English language development and acquisition. **Status: Assembly Appropriations suspense, 5/28.**

AB 1876 (Torlakson) - Education: After school Education and Safety Program

Allows the ASES programs to provide activities on weekends, but not include weekends in the grant calculation. It would give priority funding to programs meeting student outcomes... **Status: Senate Committee on Rules for assignment.**

***AB 2178 (Torlakson) - After School Education and Safety Program**

To the extent consistent with federal and state privacy laws, would allow school districts to provide After School Education and Safety Programs with specified data. **Status: Assembly Appropriations suspense, 5/28.**

SB 798 (DeSaulnier) - 21st Century Learning Centers

Revises the criteria and priorities for allocating funds as of January 1, 2010. Revises the percentage of funds required to be allocated and establishes per-day rates for the operation of year-round programs, school-year programs and summer or intersession programs. Requires the department to periodically review the appropriateness of percentages for allocation of funds and authorize them to adjust the percentages after consulting the Advisory Committee on Before and After School Programs. **Status: Assembly Education. Network position- Monitor**

***SB 898 (Ashburn) - After School: Minimum Grant**

Establishes a minimum grant of \$30,000 for after school programs at schools with a regular enrollment of less than 30 pupils and a minimum grant of \$50,000 for schools with a regular enrollment of 30 – 74 pupils and a \$16,500 minimum grant to schools for before school programs with a regular enrollment of less than 30 pupils. **Status: Senate Appropriations suspense, 5/27.**

Other Bills:

AB 1990 (Anderson) – Child Care Tax Credit: Unemployed

Establishes a tax credit for taxpayers receiving unemployment benefits for up to \$500 of child care expenses per dependent. **Status: Assembly Revenue and Taxation suspense**

***AB 2323 (Torlakson) - Child development contracts**

Allows, until January 1, 2016 CDE contractors to carry forward to the following year's contract unearned funds up to 10% of their MRA, that exceed their contract earnings. (Sponsored by CCDA) **Status: Assembly Appropriations suspense, 5/28.**

***SB 1126 (Liu) - Early childhood education course requirements**

Requires the Trustees of the California State University, and request the Regents of the University of California, in conjunction with the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, to develop articulation and transfer program agreements for early childhood education and related majors. Requires those agreements to include a waiver of course requirements for those majors for completion of similar courses at a community college and to count those courses toward the completion of minimum upper division requirements for those majors. Requires the universities to consider an implementation plan for attainment of a B.A. degree at the community colleges in collaboration with the California State University or University of California system. **Status: Senate Appropriations suspense, 5/27.**

SCR 44 (Corbett)- Regional Market Rate Structure (RMR)-

Provides that the Legislature would review the RMR in any year that the survey is not being implemented to determine if the ceilings are adequate to ensure high-quality regional programs; provide sufficient access for working poor families; provide access to infant and toddler care, during not-traditional hours, and special needs care; evaluate changes in the supply of licensed child care and take into account regional difference. (sponsored by CAPP) **Status: Assembly Education**

SCR 47 (De Saulnier)- Child Care Funding: Workforce

States the intent of the Legislature to increase funding for child development centers and preschools to provide staff with adequate salaries and benefits and provide adequate resources to support program quality. **Status: Assembly Education**

***Changes from the previous Legislative Update**