

**Alameda County Early Care and Education Planning Council  
Public Policy Committee  
March 1, 2017  
MINUTES**

*“The mission of the Public Policy Committee is to support the mission of the Planning Council by monitoring and developing early care and education legislation, policies and regulations that impact children, families and child care providers and recommending appropriate action to the Early Care and Education Planning Council.”*

*Attendees:*

|                  |                       |                |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Pauline McCarthy | 4Cs of Alameda County | Melinda Martin | Consultant            |
| Diana Engel      | Steering Committee    | Phan Fong      | Child Care Links      |
| Nancy Strohl     | Steering COmmittee    | Rosemary Obeid | 4Cs of Alameda County |

*Ellen Dektar, LPC Staff*

**Action Items from This Meeting:**

- Ellen will coordinate a call for Stage 1 uptake planning with interested members (to lay out strategy and what we can accomplish).
- CalWORKs workgroup and/or Alternative Payment programs should watch AB 43 (Thurmond) prison contract tax for young children.
- Support AB 273, AB 1164, all pilot bills (AB 258, AB 300, AB 377, AB 435)

**I. Announcements**

- Melinda is retiring June 30<sup>th</sup>!
- The California Blue Ribbon Commission is meeting on Monday (March 6<sup>th</sup>)

**II. Report out from State Contractors, Other LPC Committees**

- The Enrollment and Eligibility Committee is discussing becoming a formal Planning Council Committee; it has been meeting informally over the years; it has more front line staff than the Planning Council’s State Contractor’s Committee.

**III. Federal, State Legislation and Budget**

- a) Clean up for Alameda County’s pilot is now expected to take place through AB 435 (Thurmond)
- b) Highlights of January 23 state meeting on foster care: two day meeting, convened by Senator Mitchell and Assemblyman Thurmond; great chance to revisit changes in foster care since relative caregivers have played more prominent role in past decade and also review the intersection of the two systems; initial outcomes include adding an ECE seat to California’s Child Welfare Council and a child welfare representative (Jacqueline McCroskey) to the Speaker’s Blue Ribbon Task Force.
- c) AB 43 (Thurmond) would institute a tax on prison contractors to pay for young children’s services. Diana noted a concern about whether the tax would be passed by the contractors onto the families. Watch.
- d) AB 273 (Aguiar-Curry). Adds English classes or adult education to eligibility for state subsidies. Support.
- e) AB 1164 (Thurmond) Time limited vouchers for birth to four year olds in foster care, etc. The mechanism should build on the current subsidy system. Support.

- f) Support all pilot bills AB 258, AB 300, AB 377, AB 435 with encouragement to add Alternative Payment programs so there is not a two tiered subsidy system. The State Blue Ribbon Task Force may review the consistency of the pilots.
- g) AB 160: Public Policy supports but will defer to the Social Services Agency which will likely support this bill again that extends time limits for CalWORKs cash aid from 48 months to 60 months.
- h) SB 232: (Bates). Watch. Five year anti-poverty pilot project. Caution on groups which may receive money.

**IV. Update on Board Visits**

- No update since the last meeting.

**V. Update RBA Goals**

- Increase enrollment in Stage 1 child care for CalWORKs recipients, which is an entitlement for CalWORKs recipients. Statewide Stage 1 uptake rates are declining as they probably are in Alameda County. Goal would be to have proposal for an Alameda County fix by October.

**VI. AB 833/Alameda County Pilot Update**

- No major update.

**VII. Legislative Staff Breakfast**

- Attendance is looking good and the agenda is being finalized.

**VIII. Develop April Agenda**

- Stage 1 discussion
- Additional legislation

|  |
|--|
| <b>Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 5, 2017 9:30-11:30 **4Cs of Alameda County</b> |
|--|

**Alameda County Early Care and Education Planning Council  
Public Policy Committee  
March 1, 2017  
MINUTES**