



Action Items for the 5/19/17 Planning Council Meeting

Action Item 1: Support AB 605 (Mullin)(Birth to Entering First Grade License)

Recommended by Public Policy

Background: The Council supported this bill as AB 1897 last year, which failed due to opposition from Montessori schools which has been removed with amendments. California is one of only two states in the country which employ a separate infant-toddler license. Other states employ a single license for early childhood centers, mandating developmentally appropriate standards based on the age of the children served. Even in California, Family Child Care providers are not subject to the dual-license requirement like private fee, state and federally funded center-based programs. Many large child care organizations claim that separate licenses force California providers to arbitrarily move children out of one classroom and into another based on birthdates and not a child's developmental needs.

AB 605 would require the development and implementation of a birth to entering first grade license option for child care centers. The bill would require the regulations to include age-appropriate transition times, as specified, a requirement that a single integrated license option list the age groups of children being served at the child care center, and a requirement that all other licensing regulations that apply to a child care center shall also apply to a birth to entering first grade facility license option.

Pros: This bill would provide more developmentally appropriate services for children in center-based care, especially toddlers. This bill creates an option but is not mandatory.

Cons: This bill may make compliance and monitoring more difficult.

Next Steps: Support bill, request County support via lobbyist

Action Item 2: Support AB 752 (Rubio) (Reducing Preschool Expulsions)

Recommended by State Contractors

Background: This bill would prohibit a California Department of Education (CDE)-contracted child care and development agency from expelling or unenrolling a child due to behavioral concerns unless the agency has pursued and documented reasonable steps to maintain the child's safe participation in the program and determines, in consultation with parent/legal guardians, that the child's continued enrollment presents a continued serious threat to the child or other enrolled children, and has referred the parents or legal guardians to other potentially appropriate placements, the local child care resource and referral agency, or any other referral service available in the local community. Additionally, this bill would prohibit the California Department of Social Services from issuing a citation to or imposing a civil penalty on a facility that contracts with the CDE for a violation solely related to the behavior of a child when the facility is in the process of complying with the procedure.



Pros: This bill will provide preschool children with safeguards to maintain safe participation in a program. The model would be similar to Head Start’s expulsion guidelines and process for addressing challenging behaviors. California Community Care Licensing would not be able to cite a program based solely on a child’s behavior if they are complying with the newly adopted guidelines and process.

Cons: Preschool programs may not have the supports to address challenging behaviors such access to mental health consultants

Next Steps: Support bill via letter, request additional program supports with addressing challenging behaviors to include funding for personnel/specialist, training, coaching. Also, remove language pertaining to IFSP/IEP and modify language regarding state ...”when the facility is in the process of *developing* with the provisions of this bill...” vs. “*complying*”.