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AB 1754 (McCarty, Bonta, Friedman, E. Garcia) – Pre-K for All Act of 2018
FACT SHEET

Sponsor: Assemblymember Kevin McCarty
Staff Contact: Terry Schanz, (916) 319-2007
As Introduced: January 3, 2018

SUMMARY

AB 1754 will ensure that all low income 4-year-olds have access to early care and education pre-kindergarten programs.

ISSUE

Overwhelming research shows that investing in quality pre-kindergarten (pre-k) programs is highly effective in promoting brain development, student academic success, preventing kids from entering the juvenile justice system and fighting poverty. Additional research finds that kids who have had early experiences of economic scarcity and food insecurity make the most gains from enrollment in pre-k education.

Early intervention in a child's education increases cognitive, language, social and emotional development. This leads to increased high school graduation rates, college attendance, decreasing crime and builds a stronger middle class.

The California State Preschool program currently provides free early education for families who make up to \$50,000 a year. While the state budget provides nearly \$1 billion annually for 170,000 preschoolers to participate, there are approximately 40,000 low income 4-year olds who don't have access to preschool before they enter kindergarten.

SOLUTION

AB 1754 ensures access to early care and education programs for all eligible low-income 4 year olds.

Recognizing the importance of early childhood education programs other states, such as New York and municipalities such as Washington D.C., have launched their own initiatives to support universal early childhood education programs, leaving California lagging behind.

AB 1754 renews the call to ensure that all low income kids have universal access to quality early childhood education programs.

SUPPORT

Early Edge CA (Sponsor)
Advancement Project
Common Sense Kids Action
Fight Crime, Invest in Kids
First 5 California
MomsRising