



Policy Roundtable for Child Care

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August 5, 2013

The Honorable Joan Buchanan, Chair
Committee on Education
California State Assembly
Legislative Office Building
1020 N Street, Room 159
Sacramento, CA 95838

Dear Assembly Member Buchanan:

SENATE BILL 192 (LIU) – SUPPORT SET FOR HEARING AUGUST 14, 2013

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable), I am writing to urge your support on SB 192 authored by Senator Carol Liu. SB 192, if passed, will reflect updated references from child care and development to early learning and education support, streamline center-based contracts, and ensure that parents receive consumer education that will help them make informed choices regarding high quality early learning and support services.

The Roundtable, staffed by the Office of Child Care located within the Service Integration Branch of the Chief Executive Office, represents the collective experience, expertise and wisdom of community leaders in early childhood, education, business, economics and research and County departments representing child welfare, mental health, probation, public health, social services, and parks and recreation. As a County Board of Supervisors appointed Commission, its primary mission is to build and strengthen child care and development services by providing recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on policy, systems, and infrastructure improvement.

SB 192 reflects the research and growing knowledge about the value of high quality early learning environments for young children from birth to 13 years of age while preserving the provisions that promote families' self-sufficiency. Specifically, the bill would expand upon the funding flexibility of AB 2759 by providing California Department of Education (CDE)-contracted center-based programs with continued flexibility and local control in order to serve families based on individual community needs. In addition, the bill would ensure that parents eligible for subsidized services, including families eligible for CalWORKs Child Care, receive comprehensive consumer information that enables them to make informed decisions about early learning services that foster their children's growth and development and contribute to their success in school.

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SB 192 is consistent with the County's policies to support enhancing the quality of early learning environments, streamlining CDE administrative processes to expand access for low-income families, and ensuring that vulnerable children and their families have access to consistent, uninterrupted subsidized child care and development services.

Please feel free to contact Kathleen Malaske-Samu by e-mail at kmalaske@ceo.lacounty.gov or by telephone at (213) 974-2440 or Michele Sartell by e-mail at msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov or by telephone at (213) 974-5187 at the Office of Child Care if you have any questions.

Yours truly,


Dora Jacildo
Chair

DJ:MPS

Cc: Senator Carol Liu
Each Member of Assembly Committee on Education