



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

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April 24, 2014

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

Executive Summary

This memorandum contains reports on the following:

- **Pursuit of County Position to Support AB 1902 (Bonta).** This measure would eliminate the current requirement to assess fees on low-income families with children who attend a part-day State preschool program. Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support efforts to ensure that vulnerable children and their families have access to consistent, uninterrupted subsidized early care and education services, **the Sacramento advocates will support AB 1902.**
- **Status of County-Advocacy Legislation**
 - **County-opposed AB 1881 (Jones-Sawyer)** - related to the employee relations commissions of the County and City of Los Angeles, passed the Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee on April 23, 2014.

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- **County-opposed AB 1897 (Hernández)** - related to public agency liability for contractors' employment-related duties, passed the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee on April 23, 2014.
- **County-opposed AB 2378 (Perea)** - related to the maximum disability allowance for workers' compensation, passed the Assembly Insurance Committee on April 23, 2014.
- **County-opposed AB 2616 (Skinner)** - related to workers' compensation presumptions for hospital employees, passed the Assembly Insurance Committee on April 23, 2014.
- **Status of Legislation of County Interest.** A report on three measures of interest to the County related to: 1) the CommuniCal Program; 2) property tax agent registration; and 3) agency shop fee agreements in the County and City of Los Angeles.

Pursuit of County Position on Legislation

AB 1902 (Bonta), which as amended on April 9, 2014, would eliminate the current requirement to assess fees on low-income families with children who attend a part-day State preschool program.

Current law, under the Child Care and Development Services Act, provides eligible children from infancy to 13 years of age and their parents, with subsidized child care and development services, such as a full range of supervision, health, and support services through full- and part-time programs. This includes State preschool programs which offer part- and full-day services to three- and four-year-old children from low-income families. Existing law further requires fees to be assessed and collected for families with children in a part-day preschool program, and requires the California State Superintendent to establish a fee schedule for families using preschool and child care and development services.

AB 1902 would eliminate the requirement to assess fees on low-income families with children enrolled in a part-day State preschool program. From 1965 through July 1, 2012, families with children enrolled in a part-day State preschool program were exempt from paying a family fee. According to the author of AB 1902, once fees were

established in the FY 2012-13 State Budget Act, thousands of families statewide withdrew from the program. According to the Assembly Education Committee analysis, the fiscal effect of AB 1902 to the State is currently unknown; however, the California Department of Education reports that between July and December 2013, \$5.372 million was collected from part-day preschool program family fees. This estimate does not specify how much of these dollars were used to administer the collection of the fee, nor how much, if any, were used for funding part-day preschool slots.

The Chief Executive Office - Office of Child Care (CEO-OCC) and the Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable) note that preschool agencies across the County report that many families dis-enroll their children from part-day State preschool programs when they cannot afford the family fees. Further, agency representatives report that the cost of administering the fees is overly time-consuming and outweighs the income generated. CEO-OCC and the Roundtable indicate that AB 1902, by removing family fees which can be as high as \$177 a month, would open the State preschool program, which helps prepare disadvantaged children for elementary school, to more eligible children.

This office and the Policy Roundtable for Child Care support AB 1902. Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support efforts to ensure that vulnerable children and their families have access to consistent, uninterrupted subsidized early care and education services, **the Sacramento advocates will support AB 1902.**

This measure is co-sponsored by the California Child Development Administrators Association; California Child Care Coordinators Association; and Office of State Superintendent Tom Torlakson. It is supported by over 30 groups, including the Alameda County Early Care and Education Planning Council; Early Edge California; First 5 California, among others. There is no registered opposition for this measure.

AB 1902 passed the Assembly Education Committee by a vote of 7 to 0 on April 23, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

County-opposed AB 1881 (Jones-Sawyer), which as amended on March 28, 2014, would prescribe requirements for appointments to the employee relations commissions of the County of Los Angeles and the City of Los Angeles, passed the Assembly Public

Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee by a vote of 5 to 1 on April 23, 2014. This measure is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Local Government Committee on April 30, 2014.

County-opposed AB 1897 (Hernández), which as amended on April 10, 2014, would require that an entity that contracts for labor or services be liable for employment-related duties that their labor contractors fail to comply with, including the contractor's employee wages, tax contributions, worker's compensation coverage and occupational health and safety requirements, passed the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee by a vote of 5 to 2 on April 23, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

County-opposed AB 2378 (Perea), which as introduced on February 21, 2014, would allow the payment of Labor Code 4850 disability benefits, special leaves of absence without loss of pay benefits, to certain peace officers in addition to the maximum benefits allowed for temporary disability payments, passed the Assembly Insurance Committee by a vote of 11 to 2 on April 23, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

County-opposed AB 2616 (Skinner), which as amended on April 3, 2014, would expand the presumption of job-related injuries to cover hospital employees for methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), a skin infection, passed the Assembly Insurance Committee by a vote of 8 to 5 on April 23, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Status of Legislation of County Interest

AB 2325 (Pérez), which as introduced on February 21, 2014, would require the California Department of Health Care Services to establish the CommuniCal Program to provide, and reimburse, medical interpretation services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are limited English speaking proficient, passed the Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee by a vote of 5 to 1 on April 23, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 2415 (Ting), which as amended on April 3, 2014, would, beginning September 1, 2015, require a property tax agent to register biannually with the Secretary of State before representing a taxpayer before a county official, passed the Assembly Local Government Committee by a vote of 6 to 2 on April 23, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee.

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AB 2419 (Garcia), which as amended on March 12, 2014, would authorize the inclusion of management employees in agency shop fee agreements in the County of Los Angeles and the City of Los Angeles, passed the Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee by a vote of 5 to 1 on April 23, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Floor.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA
MR:VE:PC:ma

c: All Department Heads
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Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
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