



POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

Submit to: LA County Commissions Services

Instructions: Each LA County Commission is required to provide an update to the Board of Supervisors about its activities through an Annual Report. The Annual Report for Citizen’s Advisory Commissions is to be completed either each Fiscal Year (FY) or each Calendar Year as determined by the Commission. The following template includes suggested sections but is meant to be used as a guide and does not preclude a Commission from including additional information.

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PART I: COVER SHEET

Question: Include the name of the Commission and the timeframe covered by the Annual Report.

1.1) Commission Name

Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission
Timeframe: FY 2023-2024

Question: Include the Commission's physical and website addresses, telephone, and fax numbers

1.2) Address

600 South Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 800 Los Angeles, California 90005

1.3) Website

<https://childcare.lacounty.gov/prccd/>

1.4) Fax

N/A

1.5) Telephone

(213) 639-6202

1.6) Policy Roundtable Commissioners

Question: Include members' names and their titles, and the names of the Executive Officer.

Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission Program Year September 2023 – June 2024

COMMISSIONERS

Alejandra Albarran Moses, Ph.D., Vice-Chair

Fourth Supervisorial District

Justin Blakely, Vice-Chair

Second Supervisorial District

LA County Board of Supervisor Appointees

| First Supervisorial District | Second Supervisorial District | Third Supervisorial District | Fourth Supervisorial District | Fifth Supervisorial District |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Jessica Perea | Justin Blakely | Jennifer Cowan | Alejandra Albarran Moses | Sylvia Jauregui |
| Vacant | Gloria Davis | Amber Rivas | Ricardo Mota | Dianne Philibosian |

LA County Department Appointees

Chief Executive Office

Vacant

Alternate: Vacant

Department of Children and Family Services

Jennifer Hottenroth

Alternate: Steve Sturm

Department of Mental Health

Kanchana Tate

Alternate: Rebeca Hurtado

Department of Probation

Jeannette Aguirre Carrillo

Alternate: Sonia Barajas

Department of Parks and Recreation

Mercedes Santoro

Alternate: Vacant

Department of Public Health

Robert Gilchick

Alternate: Debra Colman

Department of Public Social Services

Nurhan Pirim

Alternate: Nora Garcia-Rosales

Child Care Planning Committee

Lisa Wilkin

Other Agency Appointees

Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles

Paul Pulver

Alternate: Jackie Majors

Child360

Vacant

Alternate: Vacant

Commission for Children and Families

Jacquelyn McCroskey

Alternate: Dora Jacildo

First 5 LA

Ofelia Medina

Alternate: Jaime Kalenik

Los Angeles County Office of Education

Luis Bautista

Alternate: Debi Anderson

Los Angeles Unified School District

Dean Tagawa

Alternate: Vacant

Southern CA Chapter – CA Association for the Education of Young Children

Fran Chasen

Alternate: Liliana Alvarez Hernandez

PART II: MISSION STATEMENT

Question: State the mission of the Commission and any motto or vision/values, if applicable; and how mission, vision and values align with and support the County's Mission and Strategic Priorities.

II.1) Mission

The Los Angeles County Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission (Policy Roundtable) builds and strengthens early care and education (ECE) by providing recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on policy, systems, and infrastructure improvement.

II.2) Vision

Children are healthy, thriving and have equitable opportunities to achieve optimal development and succeed in life.

II.3) Alignment with and support of the County's Mission and Strategic Priorities

The Policy Roundtable Commission addresses issues that are in alignment with LA County's mission.

- LA County Mission
Establish superior services through inter-Departmental and cross-sector collaboration that measurably improves the quality of life for the people and communities of Los Angeles County.
- The Policy Roundtable Commission includes seven LA County Departments and requires the composition of the Commission to include a cross-section of skills, expertise, and experience that help facilitate inter-Department and cross-sector collaboration to improve the quality of life for the people and communities of LA County.

The Policy Roundtable Commission addresses issues that are in alignment with the following LA County Strategic Priorities:

- Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative (ARDI) Strategic Goal No. 3: Increase Stable Full-Time Employment Among Individual Adults with Incomes at or Above 250% Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Child care is identified as a contributing outcome in the ARDI Strategic Plan.
- Poverty Alleviation Initiative (PAI): ECE is elevated as a critical issue in the Board's PAI. This Board priority has a focus on supporting ECE systems and workforce.

The Policy Roundtable Commission addresses issues that are in alignment with the following LA County State Legislative Agenda 2023-2024 (see Attachment A: LA County State Legislative Agenda 2023-2024) items:

- Child Development and Early Care and Education
- Child Welfare Services
- CalWORKS
- Workforce Development
- Housing, Economic, and Community Development
- Mental Health
- Justice and Public Safety

II.4) Roles and Responsibilities

Question: List any roles and responsibilities of the Commission. This information can be extracted from the Commission ordinance, bylaws, or fact sheet.

Policy Roundtable Commission Ordinance SECTION 5. Section 3.75.100 Duties and Responsibilities

- Develop policy recommendations related to child care and development that are based on solid research economic forecasts, projected demographic shifts and trends, and federal and state policies, taking into account all forms of child care and development services.
- Advise and assist County Departments in developing and implementing strategies to connect clients and/or employees to high quality child care and development services.
- In conjunction with the Chief Executive Office, develop recommendations for consideration by the Board of Supervisors on County, state and federal legislative and budget issues related to child care and development. The Policy Roundtable shall work with community stakeholders so as to understand the impact of those issues on the supply, quality, and demand for child care and development services.
- Working in collaboration with County Departments and community stakeholders, identify strategies to secure and leverage, coordinate, monitor and maximize funding for and access to high quality child care and development services.
- Develop, distribute in electronic format, and post on a County website, an annual report summarizing key issues, Policy Roundtable recommendations, and Board of Supervisors actions.

Unified Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education 2020-2025

In FY 2019-2020, the Policy Roundtable co-created with the Office for the Advancement for Early Care and Education (OAECE) and Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) the Unified Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education 2020-2025 (Unified Strategic Plan) (see Attachment B: OAECE Strategic Plan 2020-2025). The Policy Roundtable, OAECE, and Planning Committee adopted the Unified Strategic Plan to ensure the three groups focus on the same child care and development priority areas. Each group agreed to work only within the boundaries of the Unified Strategic Plan.

The Unified Strategic Plan highlights priority areas, goals, and strategies for the Policy Roundtable to accomplish. This Unified Strategic Plan indicates important role delineations between the Policy Roundtable, OAECE, and Planning Committee. The following highlights strategies the Policy Roundtable is charged with focusing on:

Priority 1 - Access to Early Care and Education

Goal: Increase access to ECE services for children birth to five years of age and out of school care for children up to age twelve

Strategy: 1.1: Reduce barriers and maximize resources to expand ECE services to centers and family child care homes, prioritizing infants and toddlers, high-need families, and under resourced communities

Strategy 1.2: Advocate for funding to build or upgrade ECE centers and family child care homes

Priority 2 - Early Care and Education Quality

Goal: Strengthen the quality of ECE services, especially for children and families most in need

Strategy 2.2: Advocate for increased quality improvement investments for all providers including centers, family child care homes, and family, friends, and neighbor care

Strategy 2.4: Promote integration across early childhood services and develop strategies that connect early childhood education with other child/family support systems

Priority 3 - Early Care and Education Workforce Supports

Goal: Improve the compensation and qualifications of the ECE workforce

Strategy 3.1: Advocate for increased compensation for the ECE workforce

Priority 4 - Family and Community Engagement in Early Care and Education Issues

Goal: Increase engagement of parents, caregivers, and communities on ECE issues

Strategy 4.2: Empower and mobilize families as advocates for ECE resources

PART III: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Question: Provide historical information about the Commission such as when it was formed and the purpose for its formation.

III.1) Historical Information

- Formation of The Policy Roundtable Commission
The Policy Roundtable Commission, established in 2000, is a Board of Supervisors appointed body comprised of 25 community leaders in early childhood, education, business, economics, and research and representatives of County Departments including Chief Executive Office, Child and Family Services, Mental Health, Parks and Recreation, Probation, Public Health, and Public Social Services.
- Purpose of Policy Roundtable Commission
The Policy Roundtable Commission is charged with developing policy recommendations to elevate to the Board of Supervisors, advising County Departments on early care and education programs, and identifying strategies to secure, coordinate, and maximize funding for high quality services.
- Staffing the Policy Roundtable Commission
The Policy Roundtable is staffed by the OAECE, an Office within LA County Department of Public Health (DPH).

III.2 and III.3) Prior Year Accomplishments and Significant Outcomes (2022-2023)

III.2) *Question: Include issues of focus in the past year (FY 2022-2023) (do not include current year FY 2023-2024 which will be discussed in section VI: Current Year's Accomplishments).*

III.3) *Question: Include significant outcomes of work by the Commission.*

Policy Roundtable Commission Issue Areas, Accomplishments, and Outcomes FY 2022-2023

| Issue | Accomplishment | Outcomes |
|---|---|--|
| Access to Early Care and Education | | |
| The family fee waivers for state subsidized child care were scheduled to sunset June 30, 2023, and many families in California will begin receiving a monthly bill of up to \$595 starting July 2023. | Policy Roundtable submitted a Pursuit of Position to LA County's CEO Legislative and Intergovernmental Legislative Affairs Office (Legislative Affairs) to support efforts to continue child care family fee waivers for all state subsidized early childhood services through June 30, 2024. | Legislative Affairs did not move this policy recommendation in the Pursuit of Position forward, however, the final state budget included subsidized child care fee waivers for families through June 30, 2025 and families would not have to pay more than 1% of their income toward fees. |
| Early Care and Education Workforce Supports | | |
| Child care wages are low making it difficult to recruit and retain people to the field. | Commission developed a Pursuit of Position to support an increase in current reimbursement rates for state subsidized early care and education programs by 25% and adopt an alternative methodology | Legislative Affairs did not move this policy recommendation in the Pursuit of Position forward. |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | using a cost estimation model and include a timeline for implementation for the actual cost of care based on program enrollment without charging families fees. This increase is essential to stabilizing California's ECE system and helping the ECE workforce make progress toward receiving wages comparable to their education and experience. | |
| Policy Roundtable Commission Infrastructure | | |
| COVID-19 pandemic allowed for Brown Act Meetings to meet online instead of in-person. In February 2023, most COVID-19 mandates and policies started to conclude as the COVID-19 pandemic subsided. | In February 2023 the approval for bodies governed by the Brown Act to meet virtually ended and as a result the Policy Roundtable began to meet in-person starting in March 2023. As part of the transition to meeting in-person the OAECE increased its outreach efforts to Commissioners to ensure the Policy Roundtable would have quorum for each meeting and secure meeting space. | The Policy Roundtable had quorum for every meeting during Fiscal Year 2022-23. |
| Policy Roundtable increased its focus on equity. | The Policy Roundtable strengthened its focus on equity through the application of its Equity Statement, explicitly elevating these issues in meetings with LA County Board of Supervisors' Children's Deputies and in policy recommendations. Equity is a foundational issue in addressing the need for higher pay rates and wages for the ECE workforce, continuity of ECE services for families, and increased resources to support ECE workforce development. | The policy positions adopted by the Policy Roundtable in FY 2022-2023 embody the Policy Roundtable's Equity Statement. |

III.4) Changes to the Commission

Question: Indicate whether the Commission expanded, changed, or remained consistent with their duties/goals/missions during FY 2023-2024.

Changed

In October 2023, the Policy Roundtable established an Ordinance and Bylaws Ad Hoc to propose changes to the Commission's Ordinance and Bylaws. These recommendations were approved by the Policy Roundtable in March 2024 and are currently under review by the Department of Public Health (DPH) Contracts department.

Expanded

The Policy Roundtable continued to expand its implementation of its Equity Statement. More information about how the Policy Roundtable expanded its promotion of equity is provided in Part IV: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

The Policy Roundtable continued to strengthen its composition by appointing new Commissioners. This expansion aims to enhance the breadth of knowledge and expertise within the Commission, ensuring a more robust and informed decision-making process.

PART IV: DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Question: Indicate how your Commission has included diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in your work, projects, and activities to represent all constituents of the County of Los Angeles.

IV.1) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives

The Policy Roundtable Commission developed and adopted the Equity Statement listed below in June 2021 and began integrating it into its work more intentionally in FY 2021-2022. While it was standard practice for the Policy Roundtable to prioritize equity issues, the Equity Statement explicitly and formally recognized that this is a value and commitment for the Commission. In FY 2023-2024, the Policy Roundtable continued to apply an equity lens as defined by the Equity Statement when determining policy priorities, promotion of policies, and Commission interactions.

Policy Roundtable Commission Equity Statement

“The Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development (PRCCD) firmly believes that all young children in LA County have an undeniable right to develop and thrive without explicit and implicit biases. Existing systemic educational and societal barriers have led historically marginalized communities to lack access to education, healthcare, and other services necessary for their growth and development.

Acknowledging and eliminating the various layers of inequities is essential and central to ensuring that children, families, and child care providers will be recognized as valued members of society. PRCCD will also work diligently to make a collective impact in advancing equity for child care providers by influencing and championing training, development opportunities, and a diverse workforce.

To accomplish this, we must normalize a holistic, intentional investment in children, families, and child care providers. As influencers, we strive to create conscious, collaborative communities of leaders, policy makers, educators, and parents. The PRCCD is dedicated to challenging one another to engage in a full spectrum of diverse perspectives amongst subject-matter experts and the community at-large. PRCCD is committed to being the catalyst of advocacy for equitable public policies and supporting and sustaining effective quality early care and education through recommendations to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.”

IV.2) Methods to Express Ideas Openly

Question: Indicate how your Commission provides an environment that allows members, public and stakeholders to share and express openly their ideas, opinions, and beliefs.

The Policy Roundtable continued and sought out additional ways to elevate DEI in its practices and policy recommendations. The practices included:

- All newly appointed Commissioners were provided a *New Commissioner Orientation* and the Equity Statement was included and reviewed in this Orientation
- The approved Pursuit of Position uplifted structural inequities in early care and education and highlighted the need that legislation and policies should be reviewed through an equity lens
- Policy Roundtable meetings included the use of various technology such as JamBoard for people to add their ideas individually, anonymously, or with their name
- The Policy Roundtable continued practices to broaden inclusivity for all participants which included:

- Made virtual participation accessible for Commissioners who had extenuating circumstances
- Designed meetings to include small group discussions to increase participation and then shared out small group discussions with the full group
- Provided accessible parking options to Commissioners needing this accommodation
- The Policy Roundtable will continue to look for ways to strengthen its DEI practices and accountability and incorporating a DEI lens in its policy recommendations

IV.3) Bylaws/Mission Updates

Question: Indicate whether your Commission's bylaws/mission statements include the promotion of zero tolerance in relation to racial and ethnic discrimination and/or gender-based differences.

The Policy Roundtable's Bylaws and Mission Statement do not explicitly address zero tolerance for racial, ethnic, or gender-based discrimination because Commissioners are required to abide by the parameters and protocols listed in the Los Angeles County Commission Manual and Los Angeles County's Policy of Equity (see Attachment C: Policy of Equity_2021).

IV.4) Encouraging Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Question: Indicate how your Commission handled diverse matters appropriately and demonstrated a commitment to encourage diversity, equity, and inclusion to its constituents.

The Policy Roundtable continues to emphasize DEI efforts by upholding and advancing its Equity Statement, first established in FY 2021-2022. In FY 2023-2024, the Policy Roundtable reiterated its commitment by including the following in its policy recommendations to the County: "The Policy Roundtable firmly believes that all young children in LA County have an undeniable right to develop and thrive without explicit and implicit bias. Due to structural inequity, all legislation and policies should be examined through an equity lens to build a system where all children have access to high-quality, affordable early care and education." By maintaining this language, the Policy Roundtable underscores equity as a core principle in its advocacy and policy work.

The Commission elevates DEI issues in its engagement with LA County Board of Supervisors' Children's Deputies and in policy recommendations via Pursuits of Positions. For example, in its Pursuit of Position in FY 2023-2024 the Policy Roundtable prioritized equity as a central focus by tackling key issues such as the need for increased ECE spaces for children in LA County, the need to develop an alternative methodology addressing the true cost of care to ensure higher pay rates and wages for the ECE workforce, and decrease restrictions for the ECE workforce. More information about the policy recommendations (Pursuit of Position) is in Part VI: Current Year Accomplishments.

PART V: NEXT YEAR'S ANNUAL WORK PLAN

Question: Provide goals or objectives for the upcoming year; and indicate how goals and objectives support the County's mission, vision, and strategic priorities.

V.1) Goals for FY 2024-2025 and County Support

The Policy Roundtable identified the following goals in its June 2024 meeting:

- Identify how Commission can be more active in moving policy issues forward
- Identify other sectors to advocate for early care and education
- Continue to focus on foster children
- Include focus on mental health in early care and education
- Engage school districts regarding universal pre-school
- Focus on early care and education workforce sustainability
- Continue to have alignment and clear role clarification between the Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable
- Resume Joint Committee on Legislation meetings in January 2025

These Policy Roundtable's FY 2024-2025 goals have been formatted to fall into the following areas and the Commission will integrate the details of the above list into these areas:

1. Promote Public Policy Priority Issues: Develop at least one Pursuit of Position for a policy issue, submit policy recommendation to Legislative Affairs, and engage with Board of Supervisors Offices to elevate priority policy issue areas and recommendations.
2. Advance Unified Strategic Plan Priority Area 2: Promote integration across early childhood services and develop strategies that connect early childhood education with other child/family support systems.
3. Strengthen Policy Roundtable Infrastructure: Continue its subcommittee Joint Committee on Legislation, obtain approval for modifications to Ordinance, and select Commission's leadership for FYs 2025-2027.

#1: Public Policy: Develop Policy Recommendations and Board of Supervisors Engagement

The Policy Roundtable will:

- Continue its practice to develop policy recommendations and at least one Pursuit of Position and
 - Submit Pursuit of Position to Legislative Affairs
 - Share Pursuit of Position with the Board of Supervisors' Offices through structured informational meetings
- Continue to invite and engage the Board of Supervisors' Children's Deputies to the Policy Roundtable Commission meetings and keep Deputies abreast of ECE landscape and policy priority issue areas

#2: Unified Strategic Plan: Early Childhood Services Integration

The Policy Roundtable will stay abreast of policies, research, and status of ECE landscape to inform its approach to implement the Unified Strategic Plan's Priority Area 2 (Quality) listed below:

- Strategy 2.4: Promote integration across early childhood services and develop strategies that connect early childhood education with other child/family support systems

- **Activity 2.4.2:** Convene a community of practice among LA County Departments' early childhood initiatives and programs to support quality, share tools and resources, and improve coordination

The following approaches will be implemented to promote integration across early childhood services and with other child/family support systems.

- Commission meeting discussions will be facilitated to intentionally identify opportunities for coordination/integration across early childhood services and with other child/family support systems
- The Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc will continue its efforts to develop a Service Coordination Strategy (Strategy) to propose to the Policy Roundtable. The Strategy will promote collaboration and coordination between LA County Departments, cross-sectors, and other early childhood focused Commissions. The Policy Roundtable will approve a Strategy and begin implementation of the Strategy.
- The Commission will inform the development of the LA County Early Care and Education Unified Strategic Plan 2026-2030

#3: Policy Roundtable Infrastructure: Update Policy Roundtable's Ordinance and Bylaws

- The Board of Supervisors will approve modifications to the Policy Roundtable Ordinance
- Begin Joint Committee on Legislation meetings in January 2025
- The Commission will approve who will serve as Chair and Vice-Chair for FYs 2025-2027

V.2 and V.3) Workplan FY 2024-2025 and Goal Timeline

V.2) Question: Include a work plan to accomplish the goals.

V.3) Question: Include a timeline for completion of each goal.

| Policy Roundtable Commission Workplan FY 2024-2025 | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Month | Goal 1: Promote Public Policy Priority Issues | Goal 2: Advance Unified Strategic Plan Priority Area 2 (Promote Integration Across Early Childhood Services and develop strategies that connect early childhood education with other child/family support systems) | Goal 3: Strengthen Policy Roundtable Infrastructure |
| September 2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Policy Roundtable, Planning Committee, and OAECE Roles • Review 2024 LA County State Legislative Agenda | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair presents continuation of theme "Synchronizing Systems" for FY 2024-2025 • Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc provides update | |

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|--|
| October 2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Supervisors (BOS) Delegations begin meeting with BOS Offices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women and Families Homelessness Experiencing Homelessness Presentation Department of Children and Family Services Presentation Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc recommends initial issue areas to include the Service Coordination Strategy | |
| November 2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review status of LA County State Legislative Agenda and if modifications have been made | | |
| December 2024 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc presents Strategy recommendations | |
| January 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Governor's proposed Budget for FY 2025-2026 Joint Committee on Legislation drafts priority policy issues areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission votes on Service Coordination Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Supervisors approves changes to Ordinance |
| February 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide feedback on proposed priority policy issues, drafted by Joint Committee on Legislation and informed by Planning Committee, to include in Pursuit of Position | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission begins to inform the development of the Unified Strategic Plan 2026-2030 | |
| March 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve Pursuit of Position Commission Delegations begin to share Pursuit of Position with Board of Supervisors' Deputies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission continues to inform the development of the Unified Strategic Plan 2026-2030 | |
| April 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delegations continue to share Pursuit of Position with Board of Supervisors' Deputies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc presents update on status of Strategy Commission continues to inform the development of | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin nomination process for selecting FYs 2025-2027 Commission Chair and Vice-Chair |

| | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---|
| | | the Unified Strategic Plan 2026-2030 | |
| May 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Governor's May Revise Budget FY 2025-2026 • Identify if another Pursuit of Position is needed or development of new legislation • Follow up with Board of Supervisors' Deputies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If needed, Services Coordination Ad Hoc meets • Commission continues to inform the development of the Unified Strategic Plan 2026-2030 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue nomination process for selecting FYs 2025-2027 Commission Chair and Vice-Chair |
| June 2025 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission continues to inform the development of the Unified Strategic Plan 2026-2030 • Commission identifies its goals for FY 25-26 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission votes to select FYs 2025-2027 Commission Chair and Vice-Chair |

PART VI: CURRENT YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Question: For Commissions that are long-standing (2 years or older), include your accomplishments from your reporting year (2023-2024) and a completion date or expected completion date.

VI.1) Accomplishments FY 2023-2024

The Policy Roundtable's significant accomplishments for FY 2023-2024 are captured in the following five categories:

1. Developed Policy Positions
2. Informed Board of Supervisors about Proposed Policies and ECE Needs
3. Policy Roundtable Informed the Infant and Toddler Child Care Blueprint and Created an Infant and Toddler Policy Ad Hoc
4. Policy Roundtable Commission Approved Updated Ordinance and Bylaws
5. Created Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc

1) DEVELOPED POLICY POSITIONS

The Policy Roundtable developed a Pursuit of Position that included three policy positions. The Pursuit of Position was informed by the Planning Committee, County Departments, and the public. For the full Pursuit of Position see Attachment D: Recommended Pursuit of Position FY 23-24 Approved by Commission 4.10.24.

Pursuit of Position

GOVERNOR'S 2023-24 BUDGET PROPOSAL: EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

1. Award and distribute ECE spaces appropriated in the 2023-24 budget by June 30, 2024 and include a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27
2. Include in the state's Child Care Development Fund Plan Federal FY 2025-27 an alternative rate methodology based on the true cost of care by the July 1, 2024 submission
3. Require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit renewal restriction

Background on Each Position

Position #1: Award and distribute ECE spaces appropriated in the 2023-24 budget by June 30, 2024 and include a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27

Background: There is an insufficient supply of ECE spaces across Los Angeles County and the high cost of child care has become a crucial workforce issue across all sectors, particularly impacting working women. California's 2021-22 budget set a goal of adding 200,000 new subsidized child care spaces by 2025-26. As of 2023-24, the state funded approximately 146,000 of these 200,000 new spaces but only 118,000 spaces materialized due to a slower timeline with the General Child Care contract allocation. As a result, 28,000 child care spaces of the 146,000 budgeted for 2023-24 have not been created. In fact, the number of child care spaces being funded in 2023-24 has stayed stagnant at 118,000, and the expansion deadline was extended from 2025-26 to 2026-27, with the intention of adding the remaining child care subsidies starting in 2024-25. The proposed 2024-25 budget adds the 28,000 child care spaces to the current 118,000, totaling 146,000 new

spaces for children at a cost of \$2.1 billion. While the proposed 2024-25 budget includes funding for the 28,000 delayed spaces, it does not actually expand the total number of child care subsidies beyond the 146,000 spaces. The Governor maintains his commitment to fund all 200,000 child care spaces by 2026-27; however, the timeline for funding the remaining 54,000 spaces by this deadline remains unclear.¹ In response to the Governor's budget, the ECE Coalition released its 2024-25 advocacy letter, signed by more than 30 organizations, that requests the 28,000 child care spaces budgeted for 2023-24 are funded and distributed in FY 2023-24 and the state provides a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27.

Position #2: Include in the state's Child Care Development Fund Plan Federal FY 2025-27 an alternative rate methodology based on the true cost of care by the July 1, 2024 submission

Background: Current child care subsidy reimbursement rates are based on the 75th percentile of the 2018 regional market rate parents pay for child care. Unfortunately, the current reimbursement rates do not cover the full cost of operating ECE programs serving income eligible families. In 2023, Child Care Providers United (CCPU), the statewide union representing licensed Family Child Care Home providers and license-exempt Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers, reached an agreement with the state that commits to using an alternative reimbursement rate methodology that employs a "cost estimation model" to develop a single rate structure for child care subsidy payment rates. Using a cost estimation model shifts subsidy payment rates from the regional market rate to using the cost it takes child care providers to provide care. Thus, this shift will likely result in reimbursement rates that allow providers to earn a higher wage and attract more people to the field. The state has not finalized the alternative methodology and cost estimations which can have significant ramifications if they are not completed soon. Every three years the state conducts a planning process to determine how its Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program, authorized under the Child Care Development Block Grant Act, will use federal funds to increase the availability, affordability, and quality of child care services. The state's CCDF Plan Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2025-27 must be submitted to the Administration for Children and Families Office of Child Care by July 1, 2024. In order for the state to implement the alternative methodology by FFY 2024-25 it must be included in the state's CCDF Plan. If the state does not include the alternative rate methodology in the CCDF Plan, then the current regional market rate reimbursement methodology will remain in place.

Position #3: Require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit renewal restriction

Background: The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) established the Child Development Permit with six different levels and each permit level is initially issued for five years. Permits are renewable for successive five-year periods upon completion of 105 hours of professional growth, except for the Associate Teacher Permit. The Child Development Associate Teacher Permit can only be renewed once (after 5 years), and permit holders must progress to a Child Development Teacher Permit within 10 years or lose their permit. This is the only permit that restricts individuals to one renewal which means these individuals can work for a maximum of ten years as Associate Teachers and then must either meet requirements for a Teacher Permit, leave their position, or leave the field altogether. Many providers with an Associate Teacher Permit are not seeking a higher position and the current Associate Teacher Permit renewal requirement forces a change they may not be seeking. This can result in the loss of experienced and valuable staff. To address this, AB 1930 (Reyes) requires that the CTC authorize Child Development

¹ First Look: Understanding the Governor's 2024-25 State Budget Proposal. California Budget and Policy Center. March 21, 2024 <https://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/first-look-understanding-the-governors-2024-25-state-budgetproposal/#:~:text=The%202021%2D22%20enacted%20budget,of%20these%20200%2C000%20new%20slot>

Associate Permit holders to renew their permits without a limitation on the number of renewals if the permit holder completes professional development and early childhood education unit requirements.

Status of Pursuit of Position

The Pursuit of Position was approved by the Policy Roundtable Commission in April 2024 and submitted to LA County's Chief Executive Office Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations branch (LAIRS) for review and approval. Supervisor Solis' Office submitted a motion to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to direct LAIRS to support the following two policy issues in the Pursuit of Position:

1. Award and distribute ECE spaces appropriated in the 2023-24 budget by June 30, 2024 and include a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27
2. Include in the state's Child Care Development Fund Plan Federal FY 2025-27 an alternative rate methodology based on the true cost of care by the July 1, 2024 submission

The motion was passed unanimously. LAIRs also issued a Pursuit of Advocacy Position Memo for the Commission's Pursuit of Position policy issue:

- Require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit renewal restriction.

Process and Stakeholder Engagement in Developing Pursuit of Position

The process to develop and monitor the progress of the Pursuit of Position spanned nine months (October 2023 – June 2024), and included the following stakeholder groups:

Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission – 9 meetings

- Identified priority policy issues to elevate for Pursuit of Position
 - Informed development of Pursuit of Position
 - Approved Pursuit of Position
 - Monitored progress of Pursuit of Position and related proposed legislation
- ✓ Meeting Dates
1. 10/11/2023
 2. 11/8/2023
 3. 12/13/2023
 4. 1/10/2024
 5. 2/14/2024
 6. 3/13/2024
 7. 4/10/2024 – Pursuit of Position Approved by Roundtable
 8. 5/8/2024
 9. 6/12/2024

Planning Committee – 3 meetings

- Informed development of Pursuit of Position
 - Monitored progress of Pursuit of Position and related proposed legislation
- ✓ Meeting Dates
1. 2/7/2024
 2. 4/3/2024
 3. 6/5/2024

Joint Committee on Legislation – 3 meetings

- Developed recommended policy issues to elevate for Pursuit of Position
- Informed Pursuit of Position

- Monitored progress of Pursuit of Position and related proposed legislation
 - ✓ Meeting Dates
 1. 3/20/2024
 2. 4/17/2024
 3. 5/15/2024 –Quorum not established, thus, meeting was not held
 4. 6/24/2024

OAECE, DPH Government Affairs, and Legislative Affairs

OAECE consulted and coordinated with *DPH Government Affairs* and *CEO Legislative Affairs* in the development, submission, and monitoring of the Pursuit of Position. The OAECE met/communicated with:

- DPH Government Affairs on average two times a month from February 2023 – May 2023
- Legislative Affairs on average two times a month from April 2023 – May 2023
- DPH Government Affairs met with Commissioners and Planning Committee members (Joint Committee on Legislation) in March 2023 (3/16/23)

2) INFORMED BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ABOUT POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS AND ECE LANDSCAPE

Commissioners from the Policy Roundtable and Board appointees from the Planning Committee met with four of the Board of Supervisors Offices (Supervisors Mitchell, Horvath, Hahn, and Barger) to provide a status on ECE in LA County and review the Pursuit of Position.

- ✓ Meeting Dates
 1. 3/21/2024 – Supervisor Mitchell’s Office, Senior Deputy Yadira Flores
 3. 5/2/2024 – Supervisor Hahn’s Office, Deputy Maral Karaccusian
 4. 5/6/2024 – Supervisor Barger Office, Supervisor Barger
 5. 5/20/2024 – Supervisor Horvath’s Office, Deputy Elizabeth Shuster

3) POLICY ROUNDTABLE INFORMED THE INFANT AND TODDLER CHILD CARE BLUEPRINT AND CREATED AN INFANT AND TODDLER POLICY AD HOC (SEE ATTACHMENT E - INFANT TODDLER BLUEPRINT)

On September 12, 2023, the LA County Board of Supervisors approved a motion that directs the Department of Public Health – Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) to develop a blueprint to fortify the LA County Infant/Toddler Care System. The OAECE conducted an extensive input process to inform the development of the Los Angeles County Infant/Toddler Early Care and Education System Blueprint (Blueprint) recommendations. To inform the Blueprint the Policy Roundtable created an Infant and Toddler Policy Ad Hoc in September 2023 and held four Ad Hoc meetings. The Ad Hoc provided updates at all Policy Roundtable meetings and provided policy recommendations to OAECE. The Blueprint was submitted to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on March 1, 2024. The Blueprint is intended to be a tool to inform Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, ECE advocates and programs, provide recommendations for elected officials during legislation session, and a guide for philanthropy to inform investment strategies. The Blueprint will also serve as a foundational document for developing the next Los Angeles County Unified Early Care and Education Strategic Plan 2025-2030.

4) UPDATED AND APPROVED THE ORDINANCE AND BYLAWS (SEE ATTACHMENT F - POLICY ROUNDTABLE ORDINANCE CHANGES APPROVED BY COMMISSION 3.13.24)

The Policy Roundtable created an Ordinance and Bylaws Ad Hoc in October 2023. The Ad Hoc met twice to discuss and review the changes. All changes were reviewed and approved by the Policy Roundtable Commission in March 2024. The Ordinance and Bylaws Ad Hoc was dissolved in March 2024.

- ✓ Meeting Dates
 1. 1/17/2024
 2. 2/21/2024

5) Created Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc

The Policy Roundtable developed a Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc in March 2024 to develop the Commission's Service Coordination Strategy. The Strategy will include identifying what services related to child care and development are offered across County departments. The Ad Hoc met three times during the FY 2023-24.

- ✓ Meeting Dates
- 3. 4/9/2024
- 4. 4/30/2024
- 5. 5/23/2023

PART VII: ONGOING/LONG-TERM PROJECTS

VII.1) Ongoing/Long-Term Projects

Question: Provide any ongoing or long-term projects that the Commission is continuing to work on.

The Unified Strategic Plan Priority Areas that the Policy Roundtable is currently focusing on are anticipated to need long-term multi-year action to improve policies and systems in these areas.



2023-2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Adopted and amended by the Board of Supervisors on:
December 6, 2022

**STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
ADDRESSING ISSUES OF MAJOR COUNTY INTEREST**

2023-24 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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GENERAL STATE LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

The County will seek to maximize State revenues; full funding for the costs of State programs; additional funding for programs where service needs have outpaced stagnant or slow growing revenues; funding formulae which ensure an equitable allocation of State funding; minimize the adverse impact of State actions; achieve greater flexibility over the use of State funds; secure State assistance whenever possible, especially from non-General Fund sources, to preserve the County's property tax, sales tax, locally-imposed taxes or fees, or Vehicle License Fee revenue base; oppose the shift of programs unless control is also shifted and State funding is guaranteed; and to oppose new unfunded mandates unless they promote a higher priority. The County will also:

1. Oppose any legislation or regulation that would transfer to Los Angeles County or its residents any costs or revenue losses incurred by another jurisdiction.
2. Support or sponsor a constitutional amendment to reallocate to local school districts the property tax revenue derived from State-assessed properties in exchange for reallocation of non-Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund property tax revenues derived from the local roll.
3. Support proposals to restructure State and local service responsibilities if they: create a nexus between authority, responsibility, accountability, and revenues; promote program effectiveness and cost containment; and recognize the limited fiscal capacity of counties by transferring sufficient revenue in the first and subsequent years.
4. Oppose legislation to change the definition of revenue neutrality in special cases, unless other entities are protected from unintended legal precedents by language narrowly justifying the need for special legislation.
5. Support proposals that reduce the two-thirds vote requirement for increasing revenues.
6. Oppose legislation that would constitute State unfunded land use and general plan-related mandates on local governments.
7. Oppose any abridgement or elimination of the Board of Supervisors' powers and duties.
8. Support proposals to address the State budget shortfall for which the County would be willing to assume a fair share of budget cuts if they are developed with the active participation of the County in designing long-term solutions throughout the entire budget process.
9. Support proposals for constitutional amendments that guarantee secure, adequate and permanent revenue and provide specific County protections for programs transferred from the State to counties.
10. Oppose the transfer of programs from the State to counties unless program control and flexibility is also shifted, and adequate State funding is guaranteed.

11. Oppose proposals to amend the Constitution or existing law to mandate the number of persons serving on the Board of Supervisors or other changes to the County's governance structure, or limit the budget of county governing bodies.
12. Oppose proposals that would impose new unfunded mandates, including those that do not provide local flexibility.
13. Support legislation that would increase delegated authority provided to a board of supervisors to lease real property and amend real property leases, and to adjust that authority annually based on the Consumer Price Index.
14. Oppose proposals that would reduce local flexibility in the administration of the County workforce.
15. Support proposals that combat misinformation and disinformation related to Elections and Voting, Immigration, Consumer Protection, and/or Public Health.

1. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

1.1 Child Welfare Services

1. Support proposals that increase funding for family preservation programs and advance initiatives to support children and families prior to involvement in the child welfare system by promoting child abuse prevention and differential response programs/models.
2. Support proposals that ensure full funding for the Child Welfare Services Program, independent of actual caseload for up to five years, which includes the fully loaded costs of a social worker, costs associated with the implementation of mandated services and programs that improve outcomes for children, and costs needed to achieve outcome improvements as identified by mandated State and Federal program assessments, among others.
3. Oppose proposals that would reduce protections for child welfare workers in the legitimate exercise of their discretion in the performance of their duties, thereby increasing liability to the County.
4. Oppose unfunded mandates that do not enhance child safety, expedite permanence, or promote well-being.
5. Support proposals to enhance adoptions by increasing funding for adoption activities and post-adoption services, and expanding to out-of-state private adoption agencies the payments currently authorized to California private adoption agencies for the unreimbursed costs of placing children for adoption.
6. Support funding of initial and forensic medical examinations in child abuse cases.
7. Support funding for parenting programs aimed at teens and child care services for teen parents.

8. Support legislation to clarify that agencies providing services to a family may share case information and to prioritize research or data sharing designed to evaluate the results of service integration.
9. Support proposals that streamline Dependency Court procedures, including the simplification of notice requirements for dependency hearings, while ensuring the safety and best interest of children.
10. Support proposals that promote communication and collaboration between child welfare and, among others, local education agencies, parks and recreation departments, local arts agencies, public libraries, law enforcement agencies, and American Indian and Alaska tribes to enhance the County's ability to establish partnerships that ensure the safety and well-being of children at risk of abuse and neglect, and develop programs and processes that improve the quality of life and outcomes for all children.
11. Support proposals to clarify and provide for social workers' access to dependent children's medical, counseling, and education records.
12. Support proposals that increase the types of professionals required to report suspected cases of child abuse and promote the quality of and accessibility of training for mandated reporters.
13. Support proposals that enhance and improve child safety.
14. Support proposals to open Juvenile Court Dependency hearings to the public.
15. Support proposals which expand and enhance the technology used by child welfare agencies to improve child safety.
16. Support legislation to allow law enforcement agencies to submit information on cases of substantiated child abuse or severe neglect for inclusion in the Child Abuse Central Index.
17. Support legislation to allow social workers to authorize medical, dental and mental health assessments and screenings for detained children in the dependency system.
18. Support proposals to restore the hearsay exception for health care practitioners in jurisdictional hearings under the Welfare and Institutions Code.
19. Support proposals that provide funding to reduce caseloads for dependency court appointed counsel.
20. Support proposals that allow child welfare agencies to access sealed juvenile court records to determine the re-entry, appropriate placement and needed services for youth.
21. Support proposals to clarify the status of a non-custodial parent in juvenile court proceedings.
22. Support proposals to provide adequate funding for the California Fostering Connections to Success Act established under AB 12 (Chapter 559, Statutes of 2010).

23. Support proposals that allow county auditor investigators, acting within the scope of their duties, access to juvenile case file records of children in foster care or probation to investigate allegations of misconduct by county employees or contractors.
24. Support proposals to increase professional development in areas that include, but are not limited to, trauma competency and cultural and linguistic competency, to promote best practices and increase the effectiveness of interventions provided by agencies that serve children and families.
25. Support proposals that increase funding and advance initiatives to support children and families involved in the child welfare system by promoting partnerships with community-based, faith-based, and civic organizations, among others.
26. Support proposals that increase funding and advance initiatives to support children and families after their involvement in the child welfare system by promoting Aftercare services and programs/models.
27. Support proposals to require the re-convening of the California Child Death Review Council to provide State coordination and integration of State and local efforts to track, investigate, and prevent child deaths.
28. Support proposals to ensure family law court judges and personnel are educated and equipped to recognize and respond to child abuse, and prioritize child safety in family court proceedings.
29. Support proposals that change the definition of and threshold for what constitutes “child neglect” to reduce the number of referrals falling under the jurisdiction of child welfare, and for changing requirements for relative caregivers to increase the number of relatives qualifying as appropriate placements.
30. Support proposals that define government-to-government relationships with tribes and consultation processes to improve outcomes for Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) cases.
31. Support proposals that clarify the principles and roles for implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), as well as those that promote government-to-government relationships with tribes and consultation processes to improve outcomes for ICWA cases.
32. Support proposals that expand resources and flexibility for counties to provide comprehensive, intensive and trauma-informed services for vulnerable children and youth with unique and complex needs (i.e., substance use disorder, mental health, homelessness), as well as robust continuum of placement resources and options.
33. Support proposals that would combat racial disparities in the child welfare system, while also preserving and advancing child safety, well-being, and permanency.

1.2 Child Welfare Services – Foster Care

1. Support continued eligibility of immigrant foster children for Medi-Cal and Foster Care funds.

2. Support proposals that increase resource family capacity by adequately funding resource family retention and targeted recruitment efforts, including Intensive Services Foster Care providers; enhancing support services available to resource families; and ensuring provider rates are equitable and sufficient to meet the individual needs of all children cared for by resource families.
3. Support State reimbursement for the placement of dependent children who are eligible for regional center services, in for-profit group homes, when a not-for-profit facility is unavailable.
4. Support proposals that would allow counties to secure increased Federal funds for foster care and other services provided to abused and neglected children at no increased net cost to the State General Fund.
5. Support legislation and funding to allow the California Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division and local government to make unannounced visits to Foster Family Agency approved resource family homes.
6. Support efforts which enhance legal permanency for children in foster care by promoting kinship adoption, enhancing Kin-GAP and supporting subsidized legal guardianship without requiring the full array of ongoing court and Child Welfare Services.
7. Support legislation and funding to facilitate successful emancipation, promote self-sufficiency, increase post-secondary achievement, and improve opportunities for transition-age youth, nonminor dependents, and former foster youth.
8. Support proposals which allow the sharing of information concerning resource family homes approved by foster family agencies to prevent the licensure, approval and/or approval of previously de-certified homes.
9. Support proposals to simplify foster care program eligibility requirements.
10. Support proposals to enhance permanency for children by streamlining and consolidating the separate studies and criminal clearances that must be administered to a resource family for licensure, approval, and adoption.
11. Support proposals and funding to ensure that the educational needs of children in foster care are met through efforts that include, but are not limited to, the expedited designation of Educational Rights Holders and improved monitoring of non-public schools.
12. Support proposals that provide and fund substance use prevention treatment services, and recovery for children and parents in the Child Welfare Services system.
13. Support proposals to shorten the timeframes to achieve permanence, including expanding the court's authority to expedite permanency by limiting reunification services on all children, if the parent has failed to participate regularly and make substantive progress in the case plan.
14. Support proposals which allow flexibility in the use of funds to provide services to families and caregivers to strengthen their parenting abilities and prevent the need for placement, shorten the length of stay and reduce re-abuse.

15. Support funding for proposals that would expand searches for relatives, provide technical assistance and training so that permanent, lifelong connections for children and youth of all ages can be achieved.
16. Support proposals that achieve permanency for previously adopted children who have returned to the foster care system as a result of an adoption disruption or the death or incapacitation of an adoptive parent.
17. Support proposals that reduce use of out-of-home placement because the best interests of children are served when they can safely remain with their parents or guardian.
18. Support proposals that improve timelines for permanent placement of dependent children to provide a safe, permanent family connection and promote emotional health, well-being, and stability.
19. Support proposals to secure credit reports for foster youth.
20. Support proposals to fully fund Emancipated Youth Stipends and the Independent Living Program.
21. Support proposals that enhance the State monitoring of foster family agencies, short-term residential therapeutic programs, and State approved resource family homes, including both staff and the homes where children are placed.
22. Support proposals to provide counties full access to a database of criminal waivers and criminal history of employees and all prospective and approved resource parents and resource families of foster family agencies, short-term residential therapeutic programs, and State approved resource family homes.
23. Support proposals that clarify existing law to provide priority enrollment in subsidized child care and development programs to children involved in the child welfare system, including those in foster care, as well as ensure that they have access to child care and development programs for which they are eligible and prioritized.
24. Support proposals that reduce the over-utilization of psychotropic medication, which includes funding for activities to monitor the administration of psychotropic medication prescribed to foster children and youth.
25. Support proposals that provide adequate funding and support to counties to ensure the successful implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) under AB 403 (Chapter 773, Statutes of 2015), which includes child and family teaming, resource family approval, and comprehensive child assessments, among other CCR components.
26. Support proposals to protect the reproductive rights of foster youth through access to sexual health education and information, and that provide child welfare workers with training to provide or refer to these services, including pregnancy options and abortion education and services with training to provide or refer to these services.
27. Support proposals that provide funding for educational, enrichment, arts, and other extra-curricular activities for foster youth.

28. Support proposals that improve post-secondary educational attainment for foster youth, including increasing access to financial aid awards, providing assistance with completing necessary forms and documents, and increasing access to on-campus support.
29. Support proposals that would support counties implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), including those that would: 1) broaden the definition of candidacy and evidence-based prevention services, 2) address critical gaps in interventions that cover all age groups, 3) create a fiscal opportunity to recover Title IV-E waiver shortfalls, and/or 4) seek guidance from Children's Bureau Region 9 related to the fiscal links between Title IV-E prevention provisions and congregate care provisions.
30. Support proposals that would provide resources and other forms of fiscal relief to counties for implementation of the FFPSA, such as, but not limited to funding for FFPSA implementation and protections from penalties or loss of Federal Funds resulting from the enactment of the FFPSA.
31. Support proposals that increase federal and state supports available for current and former foster and probation youth up to age 26.

1.3 Child Development and Early Care and Education

1. Support efforts to enhance the quality of early care and education that set high standards for all services and program types, and address the needs of all children including those with disabilities and other special needs, and their families.
2. Support efforts to develop and implement a statewide quality rating and improvement system, and a system to adjust reimbursement rates based on demonstrated quality.
3. Support efforts to develop and sustain a well-educated and highly skilled professional workforce prepared to serve the cultural and linguistically diverse child and family populations of Los Angeles County.
4. Support efforts to ensure the health and safety of all children cared for in licensed early care and education facilities as afforded by timely, regular, and frequent on-site monitoring by the California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division.
5. Support efforts to adequately fund high-quality early care and education services for all children from low- and moderate-income families.
6. Support efforts that streamline the administrative processes utilized by the California Department of Education and Social Services to expand access for low-income families, ensure continuity of care, and promote flexible use of early care and education funding to meet the needs of families.
7. Support proposals designed to prevent, detect, investigate and, when appropriate, prosecute fraud in subsidized child care and development programs.
8. Support efforts to ensure that vulnerable children and their families have access to consistent, uninterrupted subsidized early care and education services.

9. Support proposals that expand the supply of early care and education services through facility development in communities with a significant shortage of these services.
10. Support efforts that increase flexibilities and resources for early care and education providers during local, state, and/or national emergencies to ensure families have timely access to services and providers can meet any resulting increase in demand for services.
11. Support proposals that invest in family resource centers.
12. Support proposals that align eligibility for subsidized child-care to County-level living-wage calculations instead of state-level income calculations.
13. Support proposals that provide state funding to increase affordable child-care options and increase the state's early care and education reimbursements rate to a level that cover the true cost of care for young children.

2. ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND RECREATION

2.1 Air Quality

1. Support proposals and/or funding to assist local governments to: 1) purchase zero and/or near zero emission vehicles, including plug-in and hybrid vehicles, idle reduction devices, electric vehicle charging infrastructure; 2) purchase low carbon refueling infrastructure; 3) make necessary facility improvements; and/or 4) accelerate the replacement of fleet vehicles to enable the shift toward more fuel-efficient vehicles to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.
2. Support funding to assist local government compliance with existing and pending regulations to reduce emissions from both mobile and fixed sources.
3. Support measures to develop and increase the availability and use of zero and near-zero emission technology, and replacement of existing fleets.
4. Oppose cuts in assistance to local government fuel emission reduction programs.
5. Support measures that promote the development of zero and near-zero emission technologies that help meet Federal and State air quality standards.
6. Support measures that allow for innovation and local flexibility in developing, maintaining, and expanding cost-effective programs that increase access to zero-emission vehicles, access to transit, and decrease single vehicle ridership or vehicle miles traveled.
7. Support legislation that provides increased funding for the replacement of diesel-powered vehicles and equipment, including generators, with zero or near-zero emission technologies.
8. Support proposals that provide authority to local and regional agencies to reduce mobile source emissions and emissions from their associated operating facilities, including locomotive, railyard, port, and trucking.

9. Oppose proposals that would eliminate or diminish the authority of local air districts or jurisdictions to impose regulations that improve air quality and protect public health.
10. Support proposals that return a greater share of funds to local areas which generate AB 2766 (Chapter 1705, Statutes of 1990) revenues, and provide greater flexibility to local programs to comply with air quality rules and regulations.
11. Support measures that require local air districts, through their On-Road Vehicle Mitigation Options, provide for emission reduction credit to employers that install Electric Vehicle Service Equipment (EVSE) or plug-in electric vehicle chargers for their employees use.
12. Support legislation that would allow public agencies to procure on-road, diesel-electric powered, hybrid vehicles to be deployed as fleet work vehicles.
13. Oppose legislation that provides broad and categorical California Environmental Quality Act exemptions for the South Coast Air Quality Management District with respect to emission credits and the issuance of permits.
14. Support legislation that provides narrow and tailored exemptions to immediately allow essential public projects, hospitals, and historically exempted projects such as small businesses to gain South Coast Air Quality Management District permits, and emission credits.
15. Support proposals that seek to reduce cumulative impacts of air emissions and reduce the urban heat island effect in densely populated urban environments.
16. Support legislation which would: 1) extend California's efforts to combat climate change by setting interim and long-range targets for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; 2) provide flexibility to adjust the State's GHG emission reduction strategies based on changing technological and economic conditions; and 3) prioritize complementary goals of job creation, improved public health, technology innovation and regional policy collaboration.
17. Support proposals which would enact a partial sales and use tax exemption for zero-emission transit buses sold to local public agencies eligible for the California Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Program.
18. Support proposals that would require fleet operators to convert to zero emission technology whenever feasible and proposals that would provide incentives for early retirement of existing vehicles.
19. Support proposals that would provide funding and incentives for zero and near-zero emission goods movement technology at the ports and along goods movement corridors such as the I-710 freeway.
20. Support proposals that would reduce greenhouse gas emission and indoor air pollution in new and existing buildings.
21. Support proposals that would limit the public's exposure to climate-related risks, such as wildfire, flooding, and heat.

22. Support proposals to map and quantify climate vulnerability, especially if focused on public health impacts.
23. Oppose proposals that would impose additional State barriers and requirements on local governments that are acting to reduce the emission of harmful air pollution caused by the use of fossil fuels in new buildings or existing buildings when altered or retrofitted.

2.2 Beaches

1. Support measures that provide funding for beach erosion and accretion monitoring and for beach sand replenishment, including full funding of the Public Beach Restoration Act (Chapter 798, Statutes of 1999).
2. Support funding to maintain clean beaches and improve the water quality of coastal waters, estuaries, bays, and near shore waters.
3. Support funding for refurbishment and construction of restrooms, parking lots, accessways, lifeguard and maintenance facilities, docks, landscaping and other related beach and marina infrastructure on public beaches and at Marina del Rey.
4. Support proposals to include beaches in the definition of parks for the purpose of qualifying for park funding programs, if the beaches are in densely populated urban areas and are used by large numbers of residents as if they were an urban park.
5. Oppose legislation to provide the Coastal Commission additional discretion in approving permits for construction of seawalls, revetments, breakwaters, groins, harbor channels, or similar structures.
6. Oppose legislation to establish an off-leash dog beach in Los Angeles County unless it provides for State indemnification of the County and an appropriation to fund all additional County costs associated with an off-leash dog beach program.
7. Support legislation that provides for full funding for the local operation, maintenance, management, planning, and development of State-owned beaches managed by the County, such as Will Rogers State Beach and Dockweiler State Beach, securing an equitable allocation of State funding for locally operated units of the State Park System.
8. Support proposals to fully preserve the California Department of Boating and Waterways.
9. Support legislation to extend concession lease terms on State-owned facilities, including those which are under local control, when the concessionaire intends to make an investment in the property or increase revenues to the State or local operator.
10. Support proposals to secure funding for grant programs and financial incentives for green initiatives in marinas.
11. Oppose legislation that would authorize State agencies to reclaim or appropriate in-lieu fees held in account by local jurisdictions unless such fees are spent on projects located within the jurisdiction where the fees originated.

12. Support proposals to transfer fee title ownership of county-operated state beaches to Los Angeles County.
13. Support measures that provide funding and other resources for planning and implementation of coastal climate change adaption measures.

2.3 Environmental Protection and Open Space

1. Support increased funding for environmental protection programs and capital projects, including resource, open space, and shoreline protection, as well as Santa Monica Bay and beach restoration.
2. Support proposals to protect, restore, increase, and maintain natural resource areas, such as mountains, forests, beaches, park natural areas, preserves, wildlife/wildflower sanctuaries, greenways, riparian corridors, trails, and other natural environments containing ecological, geological, habitat, cultural, recreational, native biodiversity, and scenic value.
3. Support proposals to streamline the permitting process and provide funding for the control, removal and/or eradication of invasive species that negatively affect natural landscape, open space areas, water quality, and water supply, as well as provide funding for the restoration of natural resources impacted by invasive species.
4. Support legislation to promote environmentally friendly programs that address reasonable protection of resources such as care of trees, ecological systems and open space, and use of gray and reclaimed water.
5. Support measures to promote the preservation and restoration of Los Angeles County mountain, bay, watershed, river, oak woodlands, and wetland areas, particularly those located within the Los Angeles County mapped Significant Ecological Areas.
6. Support legislation that provides property tax credit for the recording of open space and conservation easements on property.
7. Support legislation to collect a fee of up to \$6 upon the annual registration or renewal of motor vehicle registrations to fund projects and grants that prevent, reduce, remediate, or mitigate the adverse environmental effects of motor vehicles and their associated facilities and other infrastructure improvement projects.
8. Support legislation that would exempt routine maintenance and operation of existing publicly owned facilities and temporary and emergency measures from Regional Board permits, Streambed Alteration Agreements, State Fish and Game requirements or other agencies' permit processes as well as any compensatory mitigation requirements of State agencies.
9. Support legislation that streamlines state agencies' permitting processes, clarifies State application information requirements, reduces delays in approval times, and reduces the cost for acquiring permits from State agencies for construction, maintenance projects and actions taken by public agencies to protect public health and safety due to emergencies, such as fires, floods and earthquakes; and support legislation that would require State regulatory agencies to report regularly on their performance in complying with the State's Permit Streamlining Act.

10. Support legislation that would enable the County to comply with various environmental regulations, such as by minimizing the generation of pollutants at their source.
11. Sponsor or support legislation that would require the California Environmental Protection Agency and its affiliated agencies (including but not limited to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Regional Water Boards) to ensure that consultants hired to conduct and complete State mandated contamination investigations and related health assessments are independent from the identified contaminating party or parties.
12. Support measures to fund and expedite the required assessment and cleanup of properties contaminated by lead, arsenic, antimony or other hazardous substances, including increased State funding and adequate resources to protect the safety and well-being of residents of the communities affected by such contamination.
13. Support legislative and/or administrative proposals to enable local governments and the State to require responsible parties to clean up contamination caused by hazardous substances and to facilitate the recovery of local governments and/or State clean-up costs from such responsible parties.
14. Support proposals that provide State funding for planning and/or implementation of environmental protection and health, environmental justice, sustainable communities, climate resiliency, and criteria pollutant and greenhouse gas reduction programs at the local level.
15. Support proposals which seek to reform and improve the California Department of Toxic Substances Control's enforcement of hazardous waste laws and regulations; regulation of facilities handling toxic substances; enforcement actions against violators; cleanup of contaminated properties; decisions on permit applications; and community engagement.
16. Support proposals that: 1) establish a statewide lead advisory taskforce to review and provide recommendations regarding policies and procedures to reduce lead poisoning in the State; 2) require owners or operators of a permitted hazardous waste facility to meet a specified schedule for submittal of a permit renewal application; and 3) ensure manufacturer fees are paid by out-of-state entities selling lead-acid batteries in California.
17. Support transportation, parks, water conservation, and other related funding proposals which would ensure greenway development, access, protection, restoration, and enhancement are eligible for funding allocations.
18. Support proposals to expand local authority (e.g., local health officer) as needed to abate hazardous material or waste exposure when there is a danger to the health and safety of the public.
19. Support legislation to assure a full "cleanup to background" of the contaminated areas at and surrounding the Santa Susana Field Lab, as outlined in the 2007 Consent Order between Boeing and key Federal and State agencies, and the 2010 Administrative Orders on Consent agreement between key Federal and State agencies.

20. Support proposals and funding that improve access to parks, beaches, recreational waters, public lands, and public spaces for Native American people to observe traditional practices.
21. Support proposals that prohibit freeway expansion projects in communities overburdened by environmental pollutants.
22. Support proposals the incorporate the County's PNA+ 30x30 plan into programs, legislation, policies, and funding opportunities.

2.4 Parks

1. Support proposals for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of parks, recreation facilities, open space, and trails, and that prioritize the establishment of new parks in the underserved areas of the County as identified in the Parks Needs Assessment and the forthcoming Rural and Regional Edition.
2. Support legislation that provides for full funding for the local operation, maintenance, management, planning and development of State-owned parks and open space areas managed by the County, such as Castaic Lake State Recreation Area, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, and Placerita Canyon State Park, securing an equitable allocation of State funding for locally-operated units of the State Park System.
3. Support proposals to fund and promote partnering opportunities with social service agencies, local art agencies, and schools for youth programs, services, and facilities that incorporate positive recreation and cultural activities, and that provide employment opportunities for youth.
4. Support legislation that promotes innovative programs that provide alternatives to gang activity and encourage the employment of at-risk youth.
5. Support proposals to fund or promote partnering opportunities with social service and health agencies to increase healthy activities and exercise programs in parks for youth and adults.
6. Support proposals to fund after-school programs in park facilities and schools operated by parks and recreation agencies, with special incentives and funding for programs in identified high-crime areas.
7. Support proposals which promote partnering opportunities with social and health service agencies and allow park and recreation programs to be eligible for State preventive health funding.
8. Support proposals to fund the urban reforestation programs of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
9. Support proposals to fund State mandated fingerprinting of all park staff and volunteers responsible for supervision of minors.
10. Oppose proposals that would increase exposure to, or reduce immunities from, governmental liability related to the ownership, construction, operation, or maintenance of parks, trails or recreational facilities.

11. Support proposals to fund for new and expanded programs that encourage all children to participate in outdoor recreational activities and programs that involve increased physical activity to address the obesity issue in our youth.
12. Support proposals to fund programs at park facilities that build social connections between parents and their community and to provide information about child development and effective parenting strategies.
13. Support or pursue legislation to expand funding sources available to the Los Angeles County Regional Parks and Open Space District and make technical updates to the District's enabling legislation.
14. Support proposals to fund or promote parks and park-related amenities as a means to increase community resilience, including mitigating the effects of climate change and increasing access.
15. Support proposals that prioritize joint-use agreements with schools in park-poor communities or communities identified as high-need in the LA County Parks Needs Assessment to increase physical activity for youth and adults, and alleviate the liability of school districts and local government partners in relation to joint-use of school facilities for educational and cultural activities, and public recreation.
16. Support proposals that would provide funding and resources for development, operations, maintenance, and programming for enhanced recreation and public access to and along the Los Angeles, San Gabriel, and Rio Hondo Rivers, including but not limited to Ballona Creek, Malibu Creek, Dominguez Channel, and their tributaries.
17. Support proposals that adjust the COVID-19 Industry Guidance related to Amusement Parks and Theme Parks to place all amusement parks, regardless of size, within the moderate risk tier, rather than the minimal risk tier, and provide competitive grants for amusement parks to be used by amusement parks to purchase personal protective equipment for their employees.
18. Support proposals that would establish an Equitable Access Grant Program consistent with the LA County's Park Needs Assessment.
19. Support proposals that incentivize or reward the development of parks, recreation facilities, open space and trails in the underserved areas that integrate a community-centered participatory design process.
20. Support proposals that support culturally and linguistically accessible park programming.
21. Support proposals that fund cooling strategies in parks.

2.5 Watershed Management and Flood Control

1. Support proposals to fund grants for projects that link watershed management, environmental restoration, biodiversity, recreation, open space, and beach improvements.

2. Support proposals which promote nature-based flood control improvements and projects, and do not diminish the performance of flood control systems, and oppose legislation or State mandates that would reduce existing levels of flood protection.
3. Oppose legislation that would grant cities the authority to set waste discharge standards for separate municipal sewer systems.
4. Support legislation to allow counties, flood control districts, and other public agencies to implement stormwater fees, upon voter approval and/or consistent with the requirements of Proposition 218 of 1996, to adequately fund clean water programs.
5. Support proposals that provide public agencies and special districts with immunities from liability to encourage development of multi-use watershed management, environmental restoration, open space, and recreation projects within flood protection and water conservation facilities.
6. Support proposals that incorporate the principles of the Safe Harbor Program, as established by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, into the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement for the development of watershed management and water quality enhancement projects.
7. Support proposals to fund river and stream education and interpretive facilities.
8. Support proposals that promote a shared Federal, State and local funding formula to pay for implementation of Total Maximum Daily Load and other storm water requirements and development of attainable and practical water quality regulations based on science.
9. Support legislation to fund the planning, implementation, construction, operation, and maintenance of watershed, flood-risk management, or multi-use projects, including integrated water resource projects and floodplain buyback and restoration programs, and support legislation that would eliminate conflicting State regulations that hinder integrated water and flood risk management.
10. Support authorization and funding for the Los Angeles County Drainage Area Project, as required by AB 1147 (Chapter 1071, Statutes of 2000).
11. Support legislation that identifies financial incentives (such as no- or low-interest loans, tax credits, etc.) to assist and encourage the hundreds of thousands of California homeowners (rural, coastal and urban) who operate Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS), to test and structurally upgrade, as determined, their OWTS as required for compliance with AB 885 (Chapter 781, Statutes of 2000).
12. Support proposals that provide funding for the evaluation of structural and hydraulic conditions and rehabilitation of sewer infrastructure to reduce sanitary sewer overflows, and for the protection of surface and ground water supply.
13. Support legislation to develop data-driven, science- and public health-based standards for pathogen levels in regulated receiving waters as a potential replacement for outdated fecal indicator bacteria standards; applies these new standards to monitoring activities; and provides funding for water quality and public health monitoring to assess the effectiveness of the new standards.

14. Support proposals that prevent predatory flood insurance practices.
15. Support legislation which would give the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts the legal authority to assist local municipalities throughout the County in stormwater and dry weather runoff management projects.
16. Support proposals that provide incentives, such as property tax exemptions, to property owners to undertake measures that improve flood resiliency for their buildings and properties.

2.6 Water Supply

1. Support proposals to fund counties and other local agencies to treat groundwater for the removal of arsenic, nutrients, salts, and other pollutants of concern to meet United States Environmental Protection Agency and State Water Resources Control Board standards.
2. Support funding to reduce or mitigate the introduction of and implement the aggressive removal of carcinogens, nutrients, salts, and other pollutants of concern from drinking water in Los Angeles County.
3. Support legislation to improve the governance of and reliability of water imported into Los Angeles County.
4. Support legislation to increase water conservation and efficiency of water use.
5. Oppose proposals that would create any requirements that impede the construction of water facilities or reduce the supply of non-imported water to improved and developed areas.
6. Support proposals to fund for the design and construction of recycled water systems to reduce reliance on imported water and improve water supply reliability.
7. Support legislation that would promote groundwater banking programs and facilitate the regulatory approval process required for implementation of groundwater banking programs.
8. Support legislation that is directed at increasing the use of recycled water within Los Angeles County.
9. Support legislation that increases the use of recycled water to support efforts that will increase local water supply needs and make local water supplies more sustainable.
10. Support legislation to increase the reliability of State and local water supplies with appropriate infrastructure and equitable funding levels utilizing the following principles: Local Water Reliability and Conservation, Climate Resilience, Affordability, Protection and Improvement of Water Quality, New Multi-Benefit Water Supplies, Conveyance and Storage, Equitable Allocation Criteria for Regional Projects, Bond Funding and Appropriations consistent with other County principles, and Delta Sustainability.
11. Support legislation that would allow water purveyors to achieve water conservation objectives.

12. Support legislation that would provide funding for technology to improve the efficiency of operation and maintenance of water supply systems.
13. Oppose legislation that would create new drinking and potable water quality requirements that would not result in clear, quantitative benefits to consumers.
14. Support legislation which allocates increased funding and necessary guidance to streamline regulatory agency permit processes to increase the reliability of State and local water supplies.
15. Support legislation which increases funding and streamlines the regulatory process for local governments' stormwater capture, flood control, water recycling, and groundwater recharge facilities and programs.
16. Support proposals to establish monitoring and reporting of secondary drinking water contaminant concentrations and expand the ability of local agencies to take nuisance actions against water purveyors for violations of secondary drinking water standards of color and odor, require water purveyors to fully cooperate with local agencies' investigations, and provide a method of cost recovery for actions taken to abate a nuisance.
17. Support proposals to require water purveyors to provide information to customers regarding complaint processes, advance notice of non-emergency maintenance or repairs that may affect water quality, and timely results of complaint investigations.
18. Support legislation that requires State agencies to prioritize review and approval of water infrastructure projects and programs that are consistent with the County's Sustainability Plan and that increase State and/or local water supplies, including water recycling, surface water treatment, stormwater capture, flood control, and groundwater recharge facilities and programs, among others.
19. Support legislation that ensures a property served by an onsite wastewater treatment system (septic systems) is evaluated by a qualified professional as part of the sale of the property and increases reporting of the evaluation results to the local health officer or designated city officials.
20. Support legislation that would allow for and/or expedite the direct reuse of potable recycled water.
21. Support proposals that effectuates fiscal and operational management and control over failing water systems by appointing an interim administrator, providing immunity from liability for parties involved in the consolidation or dissolution of a failing water system, providing adequate financial resources for the interim administrator, reimbursing local governments for costs associated with service as the interim administrator and/or successor agency of water districts, and ensuring that the local agency formation commission has a role in selecting the new, long-term water service provider.
22. Support proposals which would require the State Water Board to adopt an annual assessment of failed water systems throughout the State that prioritizes systems for financial assistance due to the severity of the public health threat, the extent to which the community serviced by the public water system is a disadvantaged community,

23. the number of people serviced by the water system, and technical, managerial and financial capacity of the entity that operates the water system.
24. Support legislation to fund monitoring and research into contaminants of emerging concern.
25. Support proposals to repair water infrastructure of small water systems and/or incentivize consolidation and, ensure water rates are kept affordable.
26. Support proposals to provide financial relief for customers who have delinquent water bills as a result of unforeseen economic hardships or resources to allow waterworks districts to continue delivering drinking water at the lowest reasonable cost to their customers.
27. Support proposals to incentivize property owners to replace leaky, corroded, and/or unsafe pipes and fixtures.

2.7 Recycling and Waste Reduction

1. Support proposals that increase flexibility for local agencies to meet the waste reduction goals of the California Integrated Waste Management Act without reducing public health and environmental protections.
2. Support legislation and policies which promote the development of alternatives to landfills that protect public health and safety and the environment; clarify the definition of conversion technologies; establish a viable permitting process for these alternatives based on performance standards rather than prescriptive definitions; ensure alternatives to landfills qualify for renewable energy production, landfill disposal reduction and reduced carbon fuels production incentives; provide full diversion and greenhouse gas emission reduction credits for these alternatives under applicable State law; and provide that all energy produced by conversion technology facilities be designated as renewable energy.
3. Support proposals to fund local governments for the environmentally safe management of hazardous and electronic waste.
4. Support legislation and funding to expand markets for diverted materials and support measures for Recycling Market Development Zones.
5. Support proposals that eliminate overlapping solid waste and recycling authority between State agencies/departments, and establish greater multi-disciplinary coordination of State environmental policies.
6. Support legislation to place greater emphasis on waste diversion program implementation, rather than relying primarily on quantity management, for the purpose of determining a local government's compliance with mandates established in the California Integrated Waste Management Act.
7. Support legislation to provide increased local government representation on the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery.
8. Oppose legislation to eliminate diversion credits or recycling credits for the use of green waste as alternative daily cover.

9. Support legislation that would increase the use of recycled materials on highway construction, repair projects, and other public works projects.
10. Support legislation to provide funding for research and development that would assist local governments in developing and enhancing source reduction, green produce development, recycling, and other waste diversion initiatives.
11. Support legislation to conduct a comprehensive environmental life-cycle assessment of waste management practices in California including waste reduction and recycling, as well as the impact of materials transported outside of the State.
12. Support legislation that places greater emphasis on producer/manufacturer responsibility for the environmental impact of their products and the waste that is produced, and shifts end-of-life management and financial responsibilities from local governments to producers, in order to reduce public costs and encourage improvements in product design that promote environmental sustainability.
13. Support and pursue extended producer responsibility legislation and take-back programs for materials such as, but not limited to sharps and pharmaceuticals, batteries, and textiles.
14. Support legislation that provides or facilitates funding for and/or strengthens the ability of local governments to prevent and remediate illegal dumping of trash and rubbish, including open desert areas and vacant lands adjacent to low-income communities.
15. Support legislation which would reduce the negative environmental impacts of single-use items, such as expanded polystyrene food containers by: 1) shifting the burden of addressing those impacts away from residents and the County and toward the manufacturers of those products; 2) promoting more sustainable alternatives to such items; and 3) phasing out the use of those items on a statewide basis when environmentally preferable alternatives are available.
16. Support legislation which promotes market development and manufacturer stewardship of environmentally friendly packaging products.
17. Support legislation which reduces the environmental impacts of single-use carryout bags and decreases the financial burden on local governments to address those impacts, and would not preempt stricter bag ordinances that local jurisdictions have enacted. Legislative proposals should seek to promote the use of reusable bags, reduce the use of plastic or paper carryout bags, and/or increase at-store recycling of carryout bags.
18. Support legislation to amend the provision of AB 2449, Chapter 845, Statutes of 2006, (Section 42252(a) of the Public Resources Code) to also require an environmental awareness message imprinted on each plastic carryout bag describing the negative impacts littered plastic carryout bags have on the environment and wildlife, and the need to use reusable bags.
19. Support legislation that would exempt soils from undeveloped watersheds, such as lands in wilderness parks or open space properties, from testing requirements at landfills and streamline the process for landfills to accept clean soil for cover purposes or beneficial uses such as construction fill material for building roads.

20. Oppose legislation which bans new hazardous materials from landfill disposal unless the proposals also provide a funding mechanism and/or establish programs and guidelines for local governments to manage the banned materials.
21. Support legislation that provides flexibility in complying with organic waste diversion laws and regulations while ensuring continued progress towards the State's climate goals, and that provides funding for waste diversion infrastructure.
22. Support proposals and funding that facilitate recovery and recycling of lithium-ion vehicle batteries.

3. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

3.1 Retirement, Compensation and Benefits, and Workers' Compensation

1. Support or sponsor local option legislation to implement employee compensation or benefit changes, as directed by the Board of Supervisors.
2. Oppose legislation that mandates or authorizes compensation or benefit changes without approval of the Board of Supervisors.
3. Oppose legislation which would remove the Board of Supervisors' control over benefit increases or decreases in the Los Angeles County Retirement System that increase County cost.
4. Support legislation that promotes the timely provision of reasonable and necessary medical care and workers' compensation benefits while opposing legislation that erodes reforms accomplished by FY 2003-04 and FY 2011-12 workers' compensation reform legislation and oppose legislation that increases workers' compensation benefits unless it maintains a fair and equitable balance for employers and employees within the reforms previously adopted by the Legislature.
5. Support workers' compensation reform proposals that align public sector workers' compensation benefits with private sector benefits to the greatest extent practical.
6. Oppose legislation that mandates eligibility of additional employees for safety workers' compensation benefits or safety retirement benefit provisions.
7. Oppose legislation that expands existing or creates new presumptions related to injuries, illnesses, diseases, or physical conditions and that can be claimed as job-related for workers' compensation or service-connected disability retirement.
8. Oppose legislation that eliminates current requirements that employees demonstrate on-the-job exposure in order to qualify for workers' compensation or service-connected disability retirement benefits.
9. Support proposals to clarify the rights and responsibilities of the County to pay Advanced Disability Pension Benefits to safety members to ensure that all appropriate County costs are reimbursed.
10. Support legislation to fund the Public Interest Attorney Loan Repayment Program to assist in the recruitment and retention of public defenders and prosecutors, or any

other student loan repayment assistance or forgiveness legislation which promotes the recruitment and retention of public defenders and prosecutors.

11. Support legislation to eliminate billing fraud or abuses of the workers' compensation system.
12. Support legislation to authorize local governments to implement retirement changes which may include: 1) a limitation on bonuses and other extraordinary pay such as overtime which may be included in pensionable income; 2) a revision of "final compensation" for purposes of calculating a retiree's pension from the highest one year to the average of the highest three years; 3) changes to retiree health plans to enable the County to adjust the design of the health plans to assist in controlling costs; and 4) coordination of benefits between disability retirement and workers' compensation permanent disability to prevent overlapping payments for the same disability.
13. Support pension reform changes and/or improvements that allow the County to recruit and retain highly specialized personnel to provide critical health, mental health, legal, and other specialized services for County residents.
14. Support legislation allowing a public jurisdiction to terminate LC 4850, special work leave benefits for safety personnel, and authorize disability pension benefits when clear and convincing evidence exists that an employee's work-related disability will preclude the worker from ever returning to the performance of his or her duties.
15. Oppose legislation which would mandate specific changes to the County's employment relations commission structure, such as prescribing requirements for commissioner appointments.
16. Oppose proposals that eliminate governmental retirement plan features such as special catch-up contribution provisions, qualifying charitable distributions, non-spouse beneficiary IRA fund rollovers, and auto enrollment.
17. Support proposals that provide State unemployment benefits to individuals unable to work as a result of a natural disaster or pandemic emergency, such as COVID-19, including self-employed workers, independent contractors, gig workers and those who earn a combination of traditional (W-2) and self-employment (e.g., 1099) income.
18. Support proposals, such as the Excluded Workers Pilot Program, that provide the functional equivalent of unemployment insurance benefits to workers who are not eligible for regular state or federal unemployment insurance benefits due to their immigration status.
19. Support proposals that increase unemployment insurance rates and recalibrate eligibility requirements and limits.

3.2 Land Use Planning

1. Oppose legislation that infringes upon county board of supervisors' local land use decision-making authority.
2. Support proposals to impose liens on non-owner-occupied properties to recover costs associated with code compliance enforcement.

3. Oppose legislation that imposes financial penalties on local governments for implementing zoning regulations that reduce the value of affected private properties.
4. Support legislation that promotes the development of housing sites near public transit hubs, discourages sprawl, or promotes urban design that encourages safe walking and cycling routes to commercial districts, parks, and schools; and integrate anti-displacement policies into housing development plans to ensure community residents are not displaced as a consequence of neighborhood investments.
5. Support legislation which would bring uniformity to the California Coast Act, which currently allows approval of decisions by a coastal county on coastal permit applications for developments that are not designated as the principle permitted use under the certified zoning ordinance to be appealed, but does not allow for appeals of the same decisions made by a city or a city and county.
6. Support legislation which subjects sober-living homes to local zoning regulations.
7. Oppose legislation that would establish building standards outside of the existing building code adoption process or that would hinder effective administration and enforcement of building standards.
8. Support proposals that provide builders and/or developers incentives to incorporate Universal Design/Visitability features which ensure safe, easy access into all housing, including new or converted dwellings or multi-family units for all persons, regardless of age or physical disability.
9. Support proposals to fund counties and other local agencies for outreach programs to educate communities on how to integrate sustainable and water efficiency elements into development and renovation projects.
10. Support proposals to monitor regulatory proceedings initiated by AB 32 (Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006), SB 97 (Chapter 185, Statutes of 2007), and SB 375 (Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008) and SB 32 (Chapter 294, Statutes of 2016) and advocate for regulations that would: 1) preserve the County's flexibility in making California Environmental Quality Act determinations; and 2) incentivize actions by the County and other local governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and, meet AB 32 mandates both through their operations and their regulatory authority.
11. Support legislation to provide counties greater land use authority and regulatory authority over gas storage facilities, oil refineries, and gas/oil extraction.
12. Support legislation that provides urban counties with the same authority that cities have under current law to exempt infill projects from the California Environmental Quality Act, as long as those projects meet the additional requirement that they are located within a locally-designated Transit Oriented Development district, or are within one-half mile of a fixed rail transit station.
13. Support legislation that provides expedited judicial review processes, similar to those provided in SB 292 (Chapter 353, Statutes of 2011), for the development of projects that provide vital public services, including hospitals, health clinics, fire and police/sheriff stations, communication facilities/systems, libraries, schools, transportation projects, and other vital government capital projects in the County that

serve the public interest, as well as commercial, sports, cultural, recreational, and clean energy projects.

14. Oppose legislation that regulates or prohibits the California Science Center from negotiating lease agreements with public and/or private entities that support the establishment or maintenance of educational and cultural activities, tourism, and/or economic development.
15. Support legislation that seeks to prohibit the South Coast Air Quality Management District from regulating or prohibiting the use of any and all fire rings on beaches statewide and instead allow local jurisdictions to determine for themselves what is right for their areas and constituents.
16. Support legislation that would facilitate the County's ability to acquire and/or use government-owned land, buildings, and existing infrastructure to further local community needs.
17. Support proposals that provide the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS) with an exemption from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act for sites which are on publicly owned land, already contain antenna support structures and related infrastructure, and are not located on environmentally sensitive areas.
18. Support proposals that preserve agricultural and working lands and limit their conversion to residential or other uses; and integrate anti-displacement policies into housing development plans to ensure community residents are not displaced as a consequence of neighborhood investments.
19. Support proposals to promote the use of public and private land for urban and peri-urban agriculture.
20. Support proposals that enable local tribes to identify and address barriers to observance of traditional practices such as harvesting and gathering, particularly on publicly-owned land, to the extent that the activities and participants are safe, and do not prevent agencies from carrying out their functions and habitat preservation.
21. Support proposals that would better enable local governments to increase density near transit, while addressing racial inequity and better serve communities of color.
22. Support proposals that provide funding for the planning and implementation of building decarbonization strategies for new and existing buildings.
23. Support proposals that would reconcile and/or harmonize potential conflicts between State housing policies and State-mandated airport land use compatibility planning responsibilities and implementation guidelines.

3.3 Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures

1. Support proposals to increase State and industry funding for detection, exclusion, and eradication of pests, the Preventive (sterile) Release Program for Mediterranean Fruit Fly and other invasive pests, and inspection of nursery plants and products.

2. Support proposals to increase State and industry funding to improve the program to inspect and certify farmers' markets, and to effectively regulate producers participating in certified farmers' markets.
3. Support proposals to increase funding for the management of established pests, including invasive weeds, insects and vertebrates, and research to develop resistant plant varieties for established diseases such as Pierce's Disease and Sudden Oak Death.
4. Support increased funding to regulate economic poisons (pesticides) to protect food and fiber crops, and ornamental landscape to ensure the safety of workers, the public, and wildlife, and to protect the quality of the environment.
5. Support proposals which strengthen the compliance of the structural fumigation industry in the safe handling of registered fumigants, and promote the safe use and handling of pesticides among workers and the general public.
6. Support proposals that increase the allocation of unclaimed refunded gas tax revenues generated from farming and horticultural activities to counties for use by county agricultural commissioners to provide services to support regulatory oversight of agricultural producers and to enhance local programs related to agriculture.
7. Oppose legislation that impedes the control of rodents, invasive species, and enforcement of pesticide use laws and regulations.
8. Support proposals to increase capacity for and practice of integrated pest management techniques.
9. Support proposals that incentivize the practice of regenerative agriculture.
10. Support proposals that incentivize the practice of regenerative agriculture and the monitoring and/or reduction of agricultural activities that have an adverse impact on the environment.

3.4 Consumer Protection and Fair Business Practices

1. Support legislation to protect consumers by providing increased and more reliable product quantity, and price information to facilitate value comparisons and transaction accuracy in sales or purchases of any commodities or materials according to weight, measure, or count.
2. Support legislation to exempt weights and measures regulatory vehicles from hazardous materials regulations, provided such vehicles do not enter public roadways when carrying such materials.
3. Support legislation to prohibit products recalled or banned by the United States Consumer Products Safety Commission from being resold in thrift shops, flea markets, pawn shops, retail stores, and/or used in child care facilities.
4. Support proposals which allow for the County's full recovery of costs related to enforcement of laws governing commercial weighing and measuring device accuracy, packaging and sales of commodities, the quality of motor vehicle fuels, and the accuracy of prices charged in retail transactions.

5. Support proposals that provide funding to the County Sealer for inspections of recycling centers to ensure citizens receive full value for their redeemed beverage containers.
6. Support proposals that promote effective price verification inspections by enhancing funding and encouraging investigations focusing on problem pricing areas and practices.
7. Support proposals that maintain or increase funding for the Dispute Resolution Program.
8. Support proposals to allow or grant local governments the authority to adopt local consumer protection standards and enforcement mechanisms.
9. Support proposals that allow counties to preserve the administration, structure, responsibilities, and funding of the Dispute Resolution Program.
10. Oppose measures that expand commercial use of individual medical records for direct marketing or promotional purposes since this is not only an invasion of patients' medical privacy and implied confidentiality, but it may also disclose their private health, medical, and diagnostic information without their permission.
11. Support legislation to enhance the County's existing Homeowner Notification Program to include the notification and application of a surcharge when notices of default or sale are recorded to inform property owners and lawful occupants of the property of real estate fraud protection and foreclosure prevention options.
12. Oppose legislation that exempts any commercially-used weighing or measuring device, packaged commodity, petroleum product, automated retail checkout system or business transactional operation from laws and regulations applicable to these items under Weights and Measures regulatory activities.
13. Support proposals that protect consumers from debt collectors and debt buyers who engage in unfair and abusive debt collection practices and litigation.
14. Support proposals to increase Small Claims Court filing limits, provide funding for Small Claims Court Advisory services, and/or other procedural changes to increase access to and simplify Small Claims Court.
15. Support proposals to strengthen consumer protections with regard to business filings requirements by establishing stricter registration requirements for process servers.
16. Support proposals that increase protections for consumers against fraud, scams, and unfair or deceptive business practices.
17. Support legislation that protects businesses from deceptive business practices.
18. Support proposals to increase funding for collaborative consumer protection and consumer education programs.
19. Support proposals that provide consumers no cost access to credit reports, simplify the process to correct credit report discrepancies, and improve the accuracy of credit reporting.

20. Support proposals to increase identity theft protections and provide funding for the assistance needed to help victims restore their credit.
21. Support proposals that would extend or remove the sunset date of, or otherwise enhance, the County's Enhanced Homeowner Notification Program (SB 1106 of 2019).
22. Oppose legislation which would prevent charitable organizations from collecting donated goods by restricting the placement of unattended collection boxes as long as they are compliant with existing laws and local ordinances.
23. Oppose legislation which would prohibit private entities contracting with a public agency from displaying content on their uniforms or vehicles which could imply the local agency is providing those services, unless the contractor conspicuously displays a disclaimer that they are not government employees.
24. Support legislation that provides the public with increased transparency regarding the value, performance and/or financial standing of businesses, educational institutions, and consumer goods.
25. Support legislation that provides consumers with comprehensive information and/or education on financial products, including tax preparation services, debt consolidation agreements, and consumer and student loans.
26. Support legislation to increase civil penalties for the unauthorized practice of law.
27. Support legislation which would create a comprehensive statewide tax agent registration system and/or ensure transparency of price disclosures.
28. Support proposals that increase assistance, accessibility, and education for consumers in the marketplace.
29. Support proposals to increase funding for wage theft enforcement or otherwise combat wage enforcement, including those that would eliminate piece rate pay.
30. Support proposals that increase consumer access to traditional banking services.
31. Support proposals to expand, improve, and/or clarify the regulation of high-cost lending, including online lending.
32. Support proposals which would create safer alternative loan products.
33. Support proposals to clarify and/or enhance translation requirements in consumer contracting.
34. Support proposals to enhance consumer protection investigations conducted by local agencies.
35. Support proposals to provide additional funding for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program providers to expand access to free income tax preparation services for low- moderate income taxpayers.

36. Support proposals which would create safer alternative loans including small dollar and short-term lending products.
37. Support proposals that increase consumer access to affordable health food items such as through the distribution of free EBT machines to food retail businesses.
38. Support proposals that would diversify, expand, and/or otherwise strengthen food supply chains, especially through support from local and/or minority-owned food production, processing, distribution, and retail businesses.
39. Support proposals that increase the capacity of free food distribution programs to recover, store, and/or distribute health foods.

3.5 Child Support Administration

1. Support legislation to allow counties to relinquish all responsibility for the local child support program to the State, should the State fail to adequately fund the program.
2. Support proposals to fully fund County child support collection program costs.
3. Support proposals that would hold counties harmless for any error or omission on the part of the State, including failure to meet collection standards.
4. Support legislation to improve collection of child support orders including, but not limited to:
 - a. Proposals that seek to base a child support order contained in a default judgment on the payor-parent's actual income, rather than presume, in the absence of proof of the payor-parent's income, that the payor-parent works 40 hours per week earning minimum wage;
 - b. Proposals that seek to enable local child support agencies to: (1) collect child support from non-traditional sources of income such as gaming proceeds paid to parents who owe past-due child support, and (2) proposals that incentivize timely support payments via enhanced enforcement tools;
 - c. Proposals to further adjust the mandatory statewide child support guideline for low- income parents;
 - d. Proposals to increase collections by developing data matches between counties and local child support agencies, including data matches for individuals that contract with or receive a license or permit from a county, to the extent the information is public, which would yield specific information enabling the local child support agency to locate the assets of more parents who owe child support and collect more child support for children and families;
 - e. Proposals to eliminate the accrual of interest on past-due child support payments in order to make child support arrearages more manageable;
 - f. Proposals that increase efficiency, such as electronic filing of court documents, use of electronic signatures, increase online access to other court and counties' records and orders, and the elimination of notarizing and maintaining hard copies of legal documents; and

- g. Proposals that support more uniformity and consistency in case enforcement.
- 5. Support proposals that ensure the equitable allocation of funding to Local Child Support Agencies and protect local control.
- 6. Support proposals that allow people to receive the supports and benefits they are entitled to without being penalized because they marry or are receiving child support and/or other public benefits.
- 7. Support proposals that promote Local Child Support Agencies' employees' safety in performing their duties.
- 8. Support proposals that promote programs aimed at alleviating child poverty.

3.6 County Investment Practices

- 1. Support measures which propose reasonable changes to local investment practices to protect public funds and oppose measures which unnecessarily restrict the ability of local agencies to invest prudently and optimize investment returns.
- 2. Oppose measures which repeal the authority of counties to issue bond financing or other debt when viable and feasible, or which limit counties' ability to issue debt to refund outstanding bonds to reduce the cost of borrowing.
- 3. Support proposals that authorize the County to issue bonds to securitize loans, such as property tax revenues pursuant to Proposition 1A of 2004, which the State borrows from local governments.

3.7 Local Government Reorganizations/County Boundary Changes

- 1. Support legislation that ensures the revenue neutrality of local boundary changes provided that it:
 - a. Ensures that the State will maintain revenue neutrality by transferring to the incorporating entity ongoing State revenue equal to the State's prior cost of providing those services.
 - b. Does not increase the duties and responsibilities of Local Agency Formation Commission Organization (LAFCO) or dictate expenditures for services without providing reimbursement through fees or from State sources.
 - c. Provides that in calculating the cost of service responsibilities being transferred in a reorganization, the LAFCO shall not consider those services funded from sources that were voter-approved or that, if re-enacted, would be subject to the provisions of Articles XIII C and D of the State Constitution.
 - d. Does not increase the fiscal liability of the County in annexations, incorporations, disincorporations, detachments, dissolutions, mergers, consolidations, and establishment of subsidiary districts.
 - e. Requires the appropriate transfer of Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) for annexations and incorporations; requires the submission of RHNA transfers as a part of the application for consideration of an annexation proposal by the LAFCO; and provides clarification for calculating the appropriate RHNA transfer.

2. Oppose legislation that requires LAFCO to review and make recommendations on urban expansion projects in outlying unincorporated areas or which would infringe on the County's local land use decision-making authority.
3. Oppose legislation or regulation that would result in net revenue loss to the County due to boundary changes.
4. Oppose legislation that would infringe on or diminish the Board of Supervisors' participation in and decision-making authority on local boundary changes.
5. Support proposals that strengthen oversight of independent special districts to improve service delivery and efficiency, expand transparency and public engagement, and standardize reporting requirements on revenues, expenditures, and reserves.

3.8 Historic Preservation

1. Support proposals to fund the protection, preservation, restoration, and enhancement of historical areas, cultural districts, civic artworks, or monuments in Los Angeles County, including but not limited to sites or artworks that are being managed on behalf of the County.
2. Support legislation that would maintain the survey monument preservation fund to pay for the necessary expenses incurred or authorized by the County surveyor to properly perform and maintain monument surveys of major historical land division lines.
3. Support proposals and funding to assist California Native American tribes to purchase and preserve their ancestral land.
4. Support proposals to fund programs that help low- and moderate-income homeowners and commercial business owners comply with local preservation and restoration policies in Los Angeles County.

3.9 Human Relations

1. Support legislation that addresses and combats discrimination based on age, disability, disease status, gender identity, language, immigration status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or other protected characteristics.
2. Support legislation to reduce hate crimes, increase human relations education and training, and increase communities' capacity to address intergroup relations issues in a positive way.
3. Support proposals to promote corporate board gender diversity.
4. Support legislation that would strengthen law enforcement training, reporting, and prosecution of hate crimes.
5. Support proposals to promote and fund cultural exchange and cultural heritage programs, including, but not limited to, arts education, art commissions, cultural programs or events, and creative placemaking initiatives.

6. Support proposals which would remove prohibitions against government entities from providing equal opportunities for historically underrepresented groups.
7. Support State audits that conduct comprehensive investigations into allegations and concerns regarding the workplace culture surrounding women and LGBTQIA+ employees.
8. Support proposals that require businesses in California to address harassment of their customers based on specified characteristics including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and national origin, by, among other things, posting a sign with specified content, training employees, and having a policy to collect data related to incidents of such harassment on business premises
9. Support proposals and funding that raise awareness and understanding of street harassment (defined as words, gestures, or actions directed at a specific person in a public place without the consent of that person, based on the person's actual or perceived race, color, ethnic group identification, ancestry, national origin, religion, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, age, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation, that the person experiences as intimidating, alarming, terrorizing, or threatening to their safety) as a public health problem with the purpose of preventing its occurrence.
10. Support proposals and funding that require transit operators to develop and implement a plan to reduce the street harassment experienced by its riders, and to consider the safety concerns and needs of riders impacted by street harassment when planning, designing, and operating their systems.
11. Support proposals that advance funding, support, and advocacy for victims and survivor of hate incidents.

3.10 Library Services

1. Support proposals to fully fund the Public Library Foundation Program.
2. Support proposals to restore library district property taxes.
3. Support proposals that provide State bond financing for public library construction and renovation, and provide funding for reasonable costs of facility needs assessments.
4. Support proposals to maintain funding for the Transaction Based Reimbursement Program administered by the California State Library and encourage universal borrowing among library jurisdictions in California.
5. Support legislation that would dedicate one-half of one percent of Proposition 98 of 1988 monies to public libraries.
6. Support proposals which provide libraries with discounts on select communications services and which encourage participation in the Federal E-rate Discount Program.
7. Support proposals that fund or increase access to a broad range of literacy materials and services, such as those for financial, digital, health, and child and adult literacy, in community-based organizations, consumer counseling organizations, educational institutions, government, and financial institutions.

8. Support proposals that provide funding to connect public libraries to high-speed, high-capacity broadband infrastructure.
9. Support proposals to fund public safety enhancements and/or social service interventions at libraries including, but not limited to, public safety staffing, social workers/clinicians, and technology (i.e., video cameras, etc.).
10. Support proposals to provide or increase funding for public libraries to provide outreach, programs, and services to customers.
11. Support proposals that would provide funding for public library facility capital, deferred maintenance, and/or other infrastructure projects.
12. Support proposals that further justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion policies at public libraries.
13. Support proposals that provide funding for services and programming at libraries in support of the unhoused population, as well as in support of mental health and well-being.

3.11 Museums, Arts, and Culture

1. Support proposals that maintain or provide increased funding for museums, arts, and cultural activities, including, but not limited to, performing arts, visual arts, media arts, literary arts, and other artistic disciplines.
2. Support proposals that provide funding for acquisition, development, rehabilitation, construction, preservation, and restoration of cultural facilities of all types, including, but not limited to, museums, performing arts centers, cultural centers, artist studios, and facilities for cultural production.
3. Support proposals to fund the Grand Avenue Project.
4. Support proposals that further diversity, equity, inclusion, and access in the fields of arts and culture, and increasing cultural activities and funding for small and community-based nonprofit organizations based in underserved areas.
5. Support proposals that provide State funding to support the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County's renovation and expansion of the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum site.
6. Support proposals that authorize public schools, parks, libraries, and museums to adopt land acknowledgement processes to properly recognize Native American tribes as traditional stewards of the land on which an entity is located.
7. Support proposals that promote the protection and preservation of cultural heritage and cultural artifacts.
8. Support proposals that provide funding or resources to the 18 actionable strategies from the Countywide Cultural Policy Strategic Plan to ensure that every resident of the County has meaningful access to arts and culture.

9. Support proposals that provide funding to support public arts agencies and nonprofit arts and humanities organizations that directly combat systemic racism through the arts and humanities.

3.12 Education

1. Support proposals to fund for school crossing guards provided by counties.
2. Support legislation to require school districts to establish a process in which the parent or guardian of a student commits in a written agreement or compact to assist and cooperate in the education of that student.
3. Support proposals to fund the California Subject Matter Projects, which includes the California Arts Projects.
4. Support proposals which would expand the role of arts education in public schools through the inclusion of arts as a core subject, the development of arts textbooks, and an increase in arts educators.
5. Support proposals that allocate special education funds in a manner that accurately reflects the needs of children in the County.
6. Support proposals to maintain or increase State funding for arts education.
7. Support proposals which address the accountability of school districts in developing, implementing, and evaluating arts education.
8. Support proposals to assist school districts in providing school-based health programs to ensure the behavioral, mental health, and physical health, and sexual and reproductive health needs of students are addressed, and all students are ready to learn.
9. Support proposals that would establish State funded schools to provide Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) instruction to underrepresented students.
10. Support proposals that help schools reduce food insecurity through advocacy, outreach, and application assistance to federal, State, and County nutrition programs, such as CalFresh, as part of the school enrollment process.
11. Support proposals that provide additional support for students impacted by distance learning throughout the region, especially the most vulnerable including those with special needs, low-income, English learners, homeless, and foster youth.
12. Support legislation and funding that would expand the role of Native American studies in public schools through the inclusion of Native American history as a core subject, the development of Native American textbooks, and an increase in educators who are Native American.
13. Support proposals that develop an aquatic and pool safety program that can be used by local education agencies, such as school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools that serve pupils in kindergarten or any of grades one through twelve.

14. Support proposals that provide greater equity in how funding gets distributed to school districts, particularly for those with the highest level of disparities.
15. Support efforts to incorporate culturally relevant pedagogy into state educational curricula to highlight the history, culture, and contribution of minority groups to American civilization, while also addressing the political, economic, and social impacts of settler colonialism and slavery.
16. Support proposals that would repeal unnecessarily punitive truancy laws that contribute to the marginalization of Black youth in schools and contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline

3.13 Public Records

1. Oppose legislation that imposes unreasonable burdens or creates unfunded mandates to provide access to records, information managed, and maintained by County agencies.
2. Support legislation that makes the economic disclosure and conflict of interest provisions of the Political Reform Act more efficient and less burdensome to administer, while furthering the purposes of the Act.
3. Support legislation that will provide State funding for the development of County Records Management and Archival Programs.
4. Support legislation to increase compliance in the filing of a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700).
5. Support legislation that amends the California Public Records Act to exempt disclosure of public entities' attorney billing records, such as invoices and time records, in litigation that is pending against the public entity or any of its departments or employees, as long as it preserves the purpose of the Act.
6. Support proposals to permit the secure electronic publishing of a Fictitious Business Name.
7. Support proposals to ensure that cities with their own health departments are able to process vital records.
8. Support proposals that provide State funding for the development, implementation, and ongoing support for a centralized process to allow information sharing electronically among various government agencies, such as data records and personal information, to expedite the issuance of benefits and provide more efficient services to constituents.

3.14 Redevelopment

1. Support legislation which enforces the redevelopment law reforms accomplished in the Community Redevelopment Reform Act (AB 1290, Chapter 942, Statutes of 1993), and oppose any redevelopment legislation which would cause the County to lose revenues or which would limit, circumvent, or repeal the provisions of AB 1290.
2. Support proposals to protect both statutory and negotiated pass-through payments, as well as all other funds allocated to taxing entities for the duration of the

redevelopment wind-down process pursuant to ABx1 26 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2011) and AB 1484 (Chapter 26, Statutes of 2012), and oppose proposals that would eliminate or reduce any pass-through payments, or eliminate or reduce or delay the flow of any other source of funds allocated to taxing entities by ABx1 26 as amended by AB 1484, before redevelopment successor agencies retire or pay off all debts, dispose of all remaining assets, and/or terminate their existence.

3. Support extension of review periods to allow counties and other affected parties adequate time to analyze the validity and impact of proposed redevelopment projects.
4. Support proposals which facilitate the successful implementation of the requirements and goals of ABx1 26 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2011) and AB 1484 (Chapter 26, Statutes of 2012).
5. Oppose proposals that eliminate the County's authority over the use of tax increment or its ability to determine its role in the formation of and participation in infrastructure financing districts, redevelopment agencies, joint powers authorities, or other similar entities.
6. Support proposals that make a county or a local housing authority's participation in any redevelopment project or program subject to local approval, and support proposals which would allow a local housing authority to transfer housing functions previously performed by a former redevelopment agency to the California Department of Housing and Community Development, or to provide funding to a local housing authority for administration of the assumed housing functions.
7. Support proposals that re-establish redevelopment programs that: 1) promote the development of low- and moderate-income housing with a minimum 30 percent set-aside and reasonable timeframes for expending these funds; 2) mandate that local governments' fiscal participation be at the discretion of the legislative body of each local government; 3) include mechanisms to allow local governments to fully recover their administrative costs; 4) require areas be deemed eligible for redevelopment projects when there is documented evidence of urban blight, local economic distress and/or inclusion of transit-oriented districts, excess Tate properties, or priority projects; and 5) require the adoption of a local financing plan to evaluate the overall fiscal feasibility and impact of redevelopment project objectives.

3.15 Elections and Voting

1. Support proposals to provide County reimbursement for the costs incurred in conducting special elections to fill vacancies in State and federal offices.
2. Support legislation to require the Secretary of State to issue voting system guidelines and test specifications for approval of new voting systems.
3. Support legislation that increases protections against interfering with the casting of ballots at polling places or by mail, including increasing fines and/or penalties for practices that attempt to impede the voting process or intimidate votes.
4. Support legislation to improve and/or clarify the challenge process for Vote by Mail ballots and strengthen voter protections.
5. Support legislation to allow for the secure and effective use of new technologies available in the field of election administration.

6. Support legislation to authorize the implementation of additional, expanded, and alternative voting opportunities.
7. Support legislation to assist counties in the effective implementation of State-mandated changes in the elections process and administration.
8. Support proposals to facilitate the timely certification and implementation of secure technology developed for the County's Voting Systems Assessment Project.
9. Support proposals to advance improved models for auditing vote totals and demonstrating the accuracy of voting systems.
10. Support proposals to improve and/or clarify the petition filing process for ballot measures, including codifying filing deadlines.
11. Support proposals to establish filing deadlines for civil writs for ballot related litigation.
12. Support proposals to ensure that voter rights are maintained and/or restored for those whose rights have been unduly challenged.
13. Support proposals for state funding to support the accelerated implementation of an expanded vote-by-mail model.
14. Support proposals that provide elections officials flexibility on the availability of in-person voting locations and the recruitment of poll workers in response to emergency orders.
15. Support proposals that would provide funding and statutory relief from State-mandated requirements related to signature verification and petition efforts, special elections, and redistricting activities.
16. Support proposals and funding that seek to make voting more accessible to Native Americans.

3.16 City Governance

1. Support legislation to specify that no more than ten percent of a charter city's owned or controlled housing could be occupied by city employees or individuals with a conflict of interest; and allow a county or its community development commission to competitively bid housing units for charter cities.
2. Support legislation which will allow all options to ultimately be considered for the future governance of the City of Vernon, including remaining disincorporated, or annexation to another municipality.

3.17 Liability Protection and Mitigation

1. Support proposals to mitigate the effects of joint and several liability upon public entities by limiting liability to any party to be responsible for their own proportion of damages.
2. Support proposals to strengthen the statutory immunities associated with the operation of public infrastructure such as immunities under Government Code section 830 et seq.

3. Support proposals that limit post judgment interest and/or that provide public entities with flexibility in paying judgments over time.
4. Support proposals to mitigate the effects of liability upon public entities by applying the Doctrine of Comparative Fault to inverse condemnation actions.
5. Support or sponsor legislation that would clarify that self-insured government entities are not liable for the workers' compensation benefits for employees of contracted temporary service agencies whose insurer becomes insolvent, and support proposals that confirm that such liabilities are covered by the California Insurance Guarantee Association.
6. Oppose legislation that authorizes the use of public resources, including bond funds, to shift the cost of court-ordered liability of private entities onto public entities, private citizens or ratepayers.
7. Oppose proposals that expand administrative and civil penalties on local government entities.

3.18 Information Technology

1. Support proposals to increase protections for electronic information managed and maintained by government agencies.
2. Oppose proposals that would increase the risk of unauthorized access, use, disclosure, or modification of County information technology resources.

3.19 Small Business Development

1. Support proposals that would increase economic opportunities for small businesses, microbusinesses, entrepreneurs, social enterprises, and nonprofits, including access to capital, contracting, and microlending opportunities.
2. Support proposals that provide funding for business development assistance, including educational opportunities on their rights and responsibilities to comply with applicable laws and regulations.
3. Support proposals to increase incentives for businesses to hire unemployed or underemployed workers and deliver other community benefits.
4. Support proposals to develop a State Social Enterprise designation or increase social enterprise contracting with government agencies.
5. Support proposals to provide economic relief to industries, small business, and individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and other natural or man-made disasters to advance economic recovery and foster sustained economic growth.
6. Support legislation that would provide small business owners with protections from personal guarantees and liability for leases between small business owners and commercial landlords.

4. HEALTH

4.1 Financing of the Safety Net

1. Support, through a coalition with other counties and providers, a dependable, long-term funding source for the health care safety net.
2. Support legislation that promotes the fair and equitable distribution of Safety Net Care Pool dollars through the Global Payment Program between public and private hospitals.
3. Support proposals that provide funding for indigent care in place of those that have been eliminated, such as the California Healthcare for Indigents Program.
4. Support legislative or administrative changes to allow the Department of Health Services access to financial information records of patients (e.g., State Franchise Tax Board, Department of Motor Vehicles, etc.) which would facilitate identification and verification of patient financial resources.
5. Support legislation to permit counties to assert and collect on liens for health care costs of patients who receive a monetary award from a lawsuit settlement or compromise rather than from a judgment.
6. Support proposals to expand the use of intergovernmental transfers, health provider fees, and other allowable methods to increase net federal Medicaid and federal Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) matching payments to California and health providers like the County at no cost to the State General Fund.
7. Support legislation to allow the use of State capital improvement funds for County facility capital projects, including clinics and other public health facilities, while preserving the option to revise and/or expand a project's scope at the County's discretion.
8. Support proposals to assist hospitals to meet seismic safety requirements.
9. Support funding to promote/market the availability of County health care services, including innovation centers.
10. Support proposals to fund technology infrastructure in public hospitals and health systems, including electronic health records, health information management system, and data exchange with immunization registries, electronic case reporting, and electronic laboratory reporting.
11. Support proposals to conform State formulae for calculating individual share of costs and low-income eligibility in the Medicare Part D prescription drug program to adequate cost of living levels in Los Angeles County.
12. Oppose measures that would establish unnecessary requirements that would be a burden to public hospitals, such as: 1) mandating inflexible hospital staffing ratios; 2) community benefits reporting; 3) mandatory placement of medical parolees; and 4) eight-hour written notice to employees who work overtime.

13. Support proposals which provide funding for the new Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital.
14. Support proposals to preserve the 1991 Realignment funding for counties and the County-specific funding formula established in AB 85 (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2013) to support indigent health care and other services.
15. Support proposals to preserve supplemental payments to public and private hospitals as the Federal Medicaid Managed Care Rules are implemented in California.

4.2 Emergency and Trauma Care

1. Reaffirm the County's commitment to the trauma care system in Los Angeles County and continue to work with the statewide coalition to seek a continuation of State funding for trauma centers, including funding for prevention and intervention programs to reduce trauma hospital visits.
2. Support proposals to provide permanent, stable funding for the County's public and private emergency and trauma care system, including fees on alcohol consumption.
3. Support the continuation of the State's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency as an independent entity, and oppose efforts to consolidate the Agency with other State departments.
4. Support proposals that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of emergency and trauma care services through the diversion of low acuity patients to more appropriate settings of care.
5. Support proposals that would allow fire departments and ambulance companies that provide approved advanced life support services to restock drug supplies directly from pharmacies and/or utilize secured, on-site pharmaceutical dispensing machines.
6. Support proposals that promote the development of a statewide trauma care system to provide a more comprehensive and coordinated system, and more effective response in the event of a disaster.
7. Oppose proposals that reduce county medical control over local EMS providers through the local EMS Agency, such as prior legislative attempts to reduce county authority over medical control of EMS providers by moving it to cities or the State, which has the potential to fragment the system and allow different levels of service, including patient care, within a county.
8. Oppose legislation to centralize EMS policymaking authority with the State or that would allow the State to impose fiscal penalties on counties if local policies are determined to be inconsistent with those issued by the State EMS Authority.
9. Support proposals to allow sheriff and fire departments to receive reimbursement for helicopter search and rescue efforts.
10. Oppose proposals which would reduce local authority regarding disciplinary actions for licensed emergency medical services personnel.

11. Support and/or sponsor legislation that would enable paramedics and emergency medical technicians responding to 911 calls to transport patients to the most appropriate facility, such as, mental health urgent care centers or sobering centers, if available, subject to the County's Emergency Medical Services Destination Policy.

4.3 Medi-Cal and Children's Health Care Coverage

1. Support proposals that reduce the number of uninsured persons and expand Medi-Cal coverage to low-income persons such as In-Home Supportive Services workers and juveniles within county probation systems.
2. Support proposals to simplify Medi-Cal eligibility rules, application, and re-determination processes to increase and expedite enrollment and promote retention, through the use of presumptive eligibility, elimination of financial barriers, increasing income and asset eligibility levels, and enabling more disabled persons to qualify.
3. Support proposals to increase funding of Medi-Cal outreach, enrollment, required documentation procurement, and retention activities.
4. Support proposals to allow counties and school districts to provide the State matching component and exercise the federal waiver option to purchase family coverage and/or establish a cost-effective alternative using a community-based health delivery system.
5. Support proposals to allow counties to use federal Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) funds to provide a continuum of mental health and public health nursing services for children in the public's care.
6. Support proposals to continue State funding for prenatal services to undocumented birthing people.
7. Support proposals to expand the substance use benefit for children and parents.
8. Support proposals to increase the Medi-Cal Maintenance Need Income Level to a minimum 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), and require the State to annually adjust the Medi-Cal Maintenance Need Income Level when the FPL is adjusted.
9. Support proposals to continue 100 percent cost-based reimbursement for Federally Qualified Health Centers.
10. Support proposals to assist local programs that combat Medi-Cal fraud.
11. Support proposals to expand local and statewide efforts to fund children's health coverage programs with the goal of universal health coverage for all children in the State of California.
12. Support proposals to allow women to utilize their full-scope no-cost Medi-Cal coverage for two years post-partum.
13. Support proposals to provide State funding for costs associated with implementation of the Deficit Reduction Act – Citizenship/Identity Verification.

14. Support proposals allowing seniors and persons with disabilities continuance of their choice to maintain fee-for-service Medi-Cal.
15. Support proposals to align Medi-Cal reimbursement rates for providers and hospitals in medically underserved areas in Southern California with Northern California Medi-Cal reimbursement rates.
16. Support proposals that allow counties and school districts to continue to match funds to obtain federal reimbursement of costs involving Medi-Cal Administrative Activities, which would allow the County and school districts to continue to recover costs associated with Medi-Cal enrollments, and allow the County to continue to offer Medi-Cal enrollment assistance to uninsured low-income families.
17. Support proposals to restore reductions to Medi-Cal reimbursement rates for providers and hospitals.
18. Support proposals to ensure that mobile eye examinations for Medi-Cal eligible children are reimbursable.
19. Support proposals to include contingency management services as a Medi-Cal covered benefit for the treatment of substance use disorders (SUD).
20. Support legislative and budget proposals for continued State funding to support the Community Health Outreach Initiative (CHOI) program activities.
21. Support proposals to expand full-scope Medi-Cal and healthcare subsidies to all residents, regardless of age or immigrant status.
22. Support proposals to expand the safety net for abortion care, including for Medi-Cal eligible and undocumented people.
23. Support proposals that ensure managed care plans can appropriately reimburse safety net providers for the full value and cost of services, including but not limited to paying for: service levels appropriate for the acuity and needs of the patient population; care coordination and management; community supports; and other investments in the safety net to promote the efficient and effective delivery of care.
24. Support efforts to require private health care plans to utilize evidence-based practices for the collection and reporting of demographic data, including sexual orientation and gender identity, and data on community needs, such as housing, nutrition, and other supports.
25. Support proposals that codify the use of Medi-Cal funding for health plans, local health and behavioral health departments, and community organizations to employ Community Health Workers, including Violence Prevention Professionals, to conduct outreach, education, system navigation, and peer support services to community members.

4.4 Health Insurance and Coverage

1. Support proposals to require public and private insurers to cover pre-existing conditions and offer comprehensive coverage for all health services, including prescription drug coverage; prenatal perinatal care, and maternity care and support;

- contraceptives; childhood, adolescent, and adult immunizations; screening for diabetes; hypertension; cervical and breast cancer; Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) treatment and biomedical interventions; Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) treatment; Sexually Transmitted Diseases; substance use; mental health; and behavioral health treatment for persons with autism spectrum disorders.
2. Support proposals to enhance access to prescription drugs, including medications for medical abortion (abortion pills), durable medical equipment and immunizations, especially for low- and moderate-income uninsured persons.
 3. Support measures to reduce the time to one year in which health insurance coverage cancellation must be determined.
 4. Support measures which provide that health insurance coverage is established upon the date of receipt of an application or receipt of the first premium payment.
 5. Support measures which require that cancellation of commercial health insurance coverage must be prior to any authorization of services.
 6. Support measures which would require the California Department of Managed Health Care to review actuarial studies for any and all health insurance rate increases to ensure that the study was appropriately performed by a qualified actuarial firm.
 7. Support measures which require that changes to health care plans must be made within one year unless those changes apply to everyone in the insured population or are required by law or regulation.
 8. Support measures that require health insurance companies to prove intentional omissions by an applicant to cancel coverage, and that require cancellations to correlate between any prior and present medical conditions for which treatment is needed.
 9. Support proposals to develop and implement solutions to improve health care access in medically underserved communities within the State, including proposals to provide funding and other incentives for health care providers, hospitals, and clinics to serve medically underserved areas.
 10. Support proposals that provide funding to increase income eligibility limits for the California Children's Services Program, and exempt counties from additional expenditures resulting from such an expansion of eligibility.
 11. Oppose legislation that would revise the Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act to impede access, increase health care costs, and/or divert health care dollars from patient care.
 12. Support proposals that extend Medi-Cal eligibility to individuals who meet the definition of a frequent user of health services and who meet income requirements for the existing Medi-Cal medically needy program, which would result in less costly treatment and a healthier outcome for patients who repeatedly use emergency rooms for medical crisis.
 13. Support proposals to restore and protect funding for Adult Day Health Care programs and/or suitable alternatives.

14. Sponsor or support legislation to extend the sunset date to provide exemptions from licensing requirements for out-of-state health care practitioners to provide short-term, in-state volunteer medical and dental services.
15. Support proposals for a public health insurance option for all residents in the State, considering but not limited to: the development of a new State health plan, county-based public options, or a Medi-Cal buy-in option.
16. Support proposals that increase health insurance subsidies to lower insurance and health care costs.
17. Support proposals to include and expand midwife and doula care as Medi-Cal covered reimbursable services.

4.5 Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) Programs and Sexually Transmitted Diseases

1. Support proposals and increased funding for the provision of comprehensive HIV testing, counseling, bio-medical prevention, education, outreach, research, social marketing, care and treatment services for people living with HIV/AIDS.
2. Support proposals that improve the treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) among persons housed in State and county correctional and incarceration facilities consistent with accepted public health standards, and upgrade and expand HIV counseling, testing, prevention, education, outreach, care, treatment, and transitional services for persons living with HIV/AIDS who are in custody.
3. Support proposals and increased funding for the provision of comprehensive STD counseling, testing, education, outreach, research, and social marketing programs.
4. Support regulatory or legislative changes to residential care facility law and regulation to enhance the provision of services to special populations, such as HIV, in residential settings.
5. Support proposals and funding to increase access to syphilis and congenital syphilis prevention, screening, treatment, and surveillance activities for individuals who are at highest risk.
6. Support proposals and increased funding to more effectively support STD surveillance in order to identify emerging areas of need, better direct scarce resources, and further appeal levels for federal funding commensurate with levels of infection.
7. Support legislation to allow local health departments to train and monitor public health staff to perform phlebotomy in field-based settings.

4.6 Public Health

1. Support measures that provide funding to strengthen the ability of public health or health services systems, including, but not limited to, environmental health monitoring and oversight, to detect, prevent, and respond to natural and deliberately-caused disasters, including climate disasters such as heatwaves, pandemics, acts of terrorism, mass shootings, and community violence.
2. Support proposals that protect the public's health and/or that preserve or increase funding for public health/environmental health activities including: chronic disease prevention (such as asthma, heart disease, cancer, obesity, and diabetes), acute and chronic communicable disease control, immunizations, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted disease control, veterinary public health and rabies control, public health laboratory, maternal and child health, family planning and abortion, childhood lead poisoning prevention, injury and violence prevention, food safety and nutrition, climate adaptation, and emergency preparedness and response.
3. Support legislation to require school districts and public park agencies to inspect their facilities on a regular basis for lead paint, report their findings to County health offices, and comply with requirements set by State and County childhood lead abatement programs.
4. Support proposals to require hospitals and non-acute health care facilities to have a written infection-control program; establish a statewide system for public disclosure of information on healthcare-associated infections in a manner that would assist consumers in making healthcare choices; and require health care associated infections data to be made available to the local health department jurisdiction where facilities are located.
5. Support legislation to protect and improve drinking water supplies, recreational waters, and fish and game ecosystems by utilizing evidence-based approaches.
6. Support legislation to provide for the safe disposal of all waste materials, especially low-level radioactive waste, by utilizing evidence-based approaches.
7. Support legislation that enhances food safety programs and regulations.
8. Support legislation that preserves and enhances housing stock including measures that support safe home environments free from lead, mold, and other indoor environmental hazards while preventing displacement.
9. Support measures which establish, enhance, or fund policies, programs, research, standards, educational curriculum, and public awareness campaigns that encourage health promotion, health protection, disease and infection control, and injury and violence prevention efforts, including suicide prevention, healthy relationships (in relation to domestic violence and intimate partner violence), community violence prevention, behavior health awareness, anti-bullying, and human trafficking prevention and intervention.
10. Support measures that expand, provide additional funding for, reduce barriers to, and increase enrollment in food assistance programs and Head Start, including increasing income guidelines and benefits for federal and State Food Assistance Programs.

11. Support increased funding of Medi-Cal for obesity screening, prevention, and treatment for children at or above the 85th percentile of the sex-specific body mass index growth charts.
12. Support proposals to implement and enforce County cultural and linguistic competence standards for all health service programs in order to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate care.
13. Support legislation to improve the planning and certification of adult day programs and services which, strengthen and provide for the fiscal monitoring of these programs.
14. Support legislation and funding that facilitates or requires health facilities, schools, private business, government, and community-based agencies to participate in large-scale disaster preparedness planning, training, and exercises, especially in the area of mass prophylaxis and care.
15. Support proposals that protect and improve the health of adolescents and young adults (12-24 years of age) through:
 - a. enhanced multidisciplinary collaborations among County departments, cities, and private agencies serving youth;
 - b. funding to enhance integration of services to adolescents, including physical and mental health, juvenile detention services, employment and training or community experiences to which the youth can be referred; and
 - c. training for adolescent service providers on youth development, youth resiliency, cultural competency, physical and mental health, youth violence prevention, nutrition and physical fitness, substance use, how and where to make referrals to appropriate services, and increase the number and effectiveness of referrals to appropriate services.
16. Support measures that promote partnerships between organizations that serve communities and public health agencies to establish and enhance public awareness campaigns to encourage healthy lifestyles, provide avenues for community members to share input, and improve access to and awareness of available services.
17. Support proposals to provide funding to promote and market the availability of programs and services focusing on chronic disease prevention, risk reduction, screening, and treatment.
18. Support proposals that would prevent youth access to tobacco products by:
 - 1) protecting anti-preemption language specified in the Cigarette and Tobacco Licensing Act of 2003 that explicitly allows local jurisdictions to pass tobacco retail licensing laws; and 2) limiting the promotion and availability of traditional tobacco products, menthol and other flavored tobacco products, and electronic nicotine delivery systems (all e-devices and e-cigarettes); 3) prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products and flavored electronic nicotine delivery systems including but not limited to menthol; and 4) prohibiting the sale of all vaping products until U.S. public health officials determine the safety of vaping products and the cause(s) of the recent vaping-related injuries and deaths.

19. Support proposals that would reduce exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS) from tobacco, cannabis, and electronic smoking devices, including e-cigarettes in outdoor areas, multi-unit housing complexes and indoor workplaces, and would designate SHS and electronic smoking devices, including e-cigarettes, as a public nuisance.
20. Support proposals to increase tobacco cessation services including mandating cessation services be covered as part of employee health benefits.
21. Support proposals for the development and implementation of programs which would provide incentives to improve the health of the workforce, including but not limited to facilitating strategies for increased physical activity and healthier eating.
22. Support proposals that increase the availability and marketing of healthy, local, sustainably-produced, and affordable foods and beverages by expanding access to and increasing the number of grocery stores, farmers' markets, community gardens, and other healthy food outlets, especially in low-income communities.
23. Support proposals that would increase the availability and affordability of immunizations, increase access to childhood, teen, and adult immunizations in school, healthcare, workplace, medical settings, and other appropriate settings, and increase funding of immunization programs to improve immunization coverage levels and reduce the incidence of vaccine preventable diseases.
24. Support proposals that increase the prevalence and safety of sidewalks, walking trails, bike paths, and parks; promote safe walking and biking routes to schools and commercial districts; and promote complete streets, which make streets safe and accessible for all users including automobiles, pedestrians, and bicyclists.
25. Support proposals that promote infill development, transit-oriented development, and the improvement of multi-modal transportation options, to encourage physical activity and improve the health of County residents.
26. Support proposals that place sensitive sites, such as childcare centers, schools, and housing safely away from harmful sources of pollution, such as freeways and industrial uses, to improve the health of County residents.
27. Support proposals that reduce harmful indoor air pollutants in workplaces and sensitive use environments such as schools, day care centers, and nursing homes.
28. Support and/or sponsor legislation that promotes:
 - a. the reduction of salt content of packaged food products and restaurant foods;
 - b. increased affordability of fresh fruits and vegetables, specifically through financial incentives, subsidies, and outreach to CalFresh-eligible/CalFresh recipients and healthcare and retailer participation in health incentive programs;
 - c. the development of pricing strategies increases prices on unhealthy sugar-sweetened beverages and support improved access to healthy foods and beverages;

- d. reduced consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages, including soda, sports drinks, and other sugar-sweetened beverages, and reduces youth access to these products;
 - e. adopt, implement, or strengthen food procurement policies to increase access to healthy and/or sustainably produced foods and beverages, and;
 - f. plant-based eating patterns.
- 29. Support proposals to direct dedicated tobacco tax increases to address the State Budget shortfall to fund programs impacted by the shortfall.
 - 30. Support proposals to strengthen the regulation and oversight of surgical centers and clinics performing obesity treatment cosmetic procedures to ensure that quality of care standards are in place at these clinics and checked by the appropriate credentialing agencies.
 - 31. Support proposals to restore oversight of physician-owned ambulatory surgery clinics by the State Department of Public Health Services Licensing Division.
 - 32. Support proposals that provide funding and/or assistance to local health departments for the purposes of billing insurers for Tuberculosis (TB) screenings, HIV and STD services, immunizations, and other preventative health services provided to insured patients.
 - 33. Support proposals to provide increased State funding to counties for the inspection and/or investigation of healthcare facilities.
 - 34. Support proposals that preserve medical services for children such as the California Children's Services and Child Health and Disability Prevention Programs.
 - 35. Support proposals that improve laboratory testing and reporting of infectious disease pathogens by diagnostic laboratories to local health departments in order to track and to curtail infectious disease outbreaks.
 - 36. Support proposals to require the State Department of Health Care Services to develop a plan to provide evidence-based home visitation program services to Medi-Cal eligible participants.
 - 37. Support proposals that increase the use of or require validated screening tools for the developmental assessment of infants and young children.
 - 38. Support proposals to increase funding for Public Health Nurses (PHN) and explore options with the State to provide flexibility for reimbursable PHN services.
 - 39. Support and/or pursue legislation that would increase funding for: a) Mosquito-borne disease and vaccination research; and b) Mosquito and vector control services which include but are not limited to: source reduction, surveillance and monitoring, education and outreach, biological control, and chemical control.

40. Support and/or pursue legislation that would allow for mosquito and vector control considerations in environmental evaluation and ongoing management and maintenance of stormwater and other infrastructure projects.
41. Support and/or pursue legislation that would grant state certified mosquito control personnel more authority to expeditiously access properties that are mosquito infested so intervention efforts can be initiated.
42. Support research for a Valley Fever vaccine, and the State's efforts to combat the Valley Fever Disease.
43. Support proposals to develop and fund a State wellness fund to support community disease prevention and wellness efforts that address the root causes of prevalent and preventable physical and mental health conditions, including trauma mitigation, resulting in reductions in downstream health care spending.
44. Support proposals that would protect medically-fragile individuals and vulnerable communities from harm caused by power outages or other emergencies.
45. Support proposals that would strengthen penalties for failure to meet mandatory State disease reporting requirements.
46. Support proposals that would strengthen social services to individuals impacted by public health isolation or quarantine orders.
47. Support proposals that provide equitable investments to eliminate health disparities among disproportionately burdened communities (e.g., people of color and low-income people) and address policies that perpetuate systemic racism that have endured historically racist practices (i.e., redlining community disinvestment, and over-policing) and their impacts.
48. Support legislation and funding that expands the collection and reporting of racial, ethnic, and tribal data in population health datasets, and enforcement efforts to ensure compliance with these requirements.
49. Support proposals that increase availability, affordability, and promotion of healthy and sustainably produced food options available at grocery stores, convenience stores, mobile food facilities, restaurants, and other food outlets, especially those at or near schools.
50. Support proposals that promote landlord compliance with health and safety regulations for housing and fund or otherwise enable the collection and tracking of data on housing maintenance practices and landlord business affiliations.
51. Support legislation that would provide accommodations for sidewalk food vending while ensuring food safety, that include, but are not limited to: 1) streamlining approvals for code-complaint carts, including by giving flexibility to local health authorities to approve innovative designs that are affordable and meet the unique needs of the vendors; 2) revising regulations to establish clear and easy-to-follow safety protocols that account for the types of foods commonly sold by sidewalk vendors; 3) simplifying onerous sink, power, water, fire safety, and other equipment

- requirements; and 4) creating a process for addressing non-compliance without criminal penalties.
52. Support legislative and funding proposals to support and expand the Community Health Worker and/or promotoras/es initiatives.
 53. Support proposals and funding that aim to ensure equitable rapid response, economic recovery, and funding to communities disproportionately impacted by public health emergencies and natural disasters.
 54. Support proposals that protect workers, older adults, unhoused individuals, and other vulnerable populations from impacts of climate disasters (e.g., heatwaves), including through communications, services, building codes, and funding for home cooling.
 55. Support proposals that increase the capacity of free food distribution programs to recover, store, and/or distribute healthy food.
 56. Support efforts to provide grants to community-based organizations and/or faith-based organizations to identify health and racial justice issues in their communities and develop solutions to address them.
 57. Support anti-preemption policies that allow local jurisdictions to pass sugar-sweetened beverage taxes and other public health-focused interventions.
 58. Support legislation that expands funding to or supports education campaigns for all ages on reproductive health care including abortion, contraceptives, and pregnancy prevention.

4.7 Substance Use

1. Support proposals to increase funding for substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery services that provide local flexibility and discretion based on the local planning process.
2. Support proposals for increased funding from Medi-Cal and other funding sources to enhance the substance use services system of care, including youth in the juvenile justice system and youth transitioning out of foster care, to address the growing problems associated with adolescent substance use.
3. Oppose measures that reduce the availability and accessibility of substance use prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services for individuals engaging in substance use.
4. Support proposals that provide funding for health, mental health, homeless assistance, child welfare services, social services, as well as adult and juvenile criminal justice programs that provide or make accessible substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery services as part of its continuum of services.
5. Support proposals that promote environmental approaches to reducing substance use problems in the community, e.g., expanding local authority to enforce local zoning ordinances related to alcohol outlets and increasing funding to expand/enhance community-based coalitions to help residents prevent/reduce local substance use problems.

6. Support proposals that provide funding to increase the availability of education programs to prevent Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, a spectrum of irreversible birth defects, caused when a woman consumes alcohol during pregnancy; and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, a withdrawal syndrome that can occur in newborns exposed to certain substances, including opioids, during pregnancy.
7. Support legislation that will fund and expand the County's research, prevention, and treatment efforts for SUD, including cannabis, methamphetamine, and opioid addiction.
8. Support proposals that provide permanent and stable funding, and integrated approaches, including outreach and enrollment, for the early identification and diversion of high-risk/high-cost patients who are dually-diagnosed with mental health and SUD or other multiple symptoms/problems that effectively addresses substance use, mental health, housing, and related matters.
9. Support proposals which would improve the ability of California residents to easily discern the alcohol or drug content of products and reduce the potential to confuse alcoholic and drug products, such as alcopops for non-alcoholic products, cannabis edibles for non-cannabis products, or nicotine-containing e-cigarettes for nicotine-free products.
10. Support legislation that gives counties local authority in establishing Driving Under the Influence (DUI) programs including programs to address the specific cultural and linguistic needs in populations who experience increased DUI violations.
11. Support legislation that establishes a single State professional licensure process for SUD counselors administered by a single State professional behavioral health regulatory body.
12. Support restoration of permanent and adequate funding for the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Proposition 36) to provide drug treatment services to nonviolent drug offenders sentenced under Proposition 36.
13. Support proposals to include a full continuum of evidence-based SUD benefits and reimbursements under the Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) program for adults and youth that meet established standards of care, including benefits currently not covered such as addiction medications, comprehensive residential services, and recovery support services.
14. Support legislation that improves oversight of the State's DMC program by implementing program enhancements that include, but are not limited to: 1) improved collaboration, information sharing, and communication between the State and local jurisdictions; 2) adoption of formal policy and procedures for immediately advising counties when provider agencies are being decertified or suspended by the State and/or investigated by the Department of Justice; 3) inclusion of in-depth administrative, programmatic, and financial reviews during the provider certification review process; and 4) increased provider engagement and training.
15. Support delivery system, program, and payment reform proposals that increase the treatment system capacity to improve access to SUD treatment services.

16. Support proposals to develop recommendations for best practices, protocols, and other policies to enforce driving under the influence of substances, including prescription drugs.
17. Support proposals that increase access to Food and Drug Administration-approved medications for addiction treatment by clinical providers (i.e., physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants for SUD treatments).
18. Oppose proposals that seek to extend the sale of alcohol and alcohol products beyond current law.
19. Support proposals that delegate DMC certification responsibilities from the California State Department of Health Care Services to counties.
20. Support proposals that strengthen and provide funding for improved monitoring and enforcement of anti-patient brokering laws to protect SUD patients.
21. Support proposals that provide funding to enhance emergency departments discharge planning referrals and resources for individuals with complex needs (i.e., substance use disorder, mental health, and homelessness), including case management, navigation services, and health provider education.
22. Support proposals that reduce the prosecutorial and legal system interference with overdose and infection prevention initiatives, and reduce interference with addiction treatment for people who use drugs.
23. Support proposals that expand access to overdose and infection prevention tools for people who use drugs.

4.8 Health Education and Training

1. Support legislation that would permit the Los Angeles County College of Nursing and Allied Health (CONAH) to receive pass-through funding from the State and other government entities similar to the funding allocation for community college nursing programs.
2. Support enhanced funding for nursing education and training slots at public universities and teaching hospitals, expanded workforce development funding and training programs for nursing and other allied health professions, as well as recruitment and retention of nurses, physicians, and allied health professionals to work for providers who serve primarily poor or medically uninsured patients who rely on the medical safety net system for health care in medically underserved areas.
3. Support proposals that provide funding for the education and training of students interested in the laboratory field, including but not limited to the Los Angeles County CONAH.
4. Support proposals that facilitate the recruitment of nationally licensed laboratory personnel to work in California, including acceptance of the American Society for Clinical Pathology licensure examinations.
5. Support proposals that fund training to enhance the competency of the health education workforce.

6. Support proposals to increase funding for public health nutritionists in local health departments and increase training funds for dietitians.
7. Support proposals that fund academic development and preparation programs designed for disadvantaged ethnic groups, with a special emphasis on Spanish-speaking individuals, to assist those groups to enter and successfully complete nursing and allied health professional training programs.
8. Support a continuation and expansion of the Career Advancement Academy for health care funded by the California community college districts.
9. Support proposals that provide funding for the education and training of primary and specialty care physicians, and epidemiologists.
10. Support proposals that establish funding for workforce development and infrastructure for public behavioral health care and SUD treatment providers, including non-licensed staff such as SUD counselors and peer support specialists.
11. Support policy proposals that incentivize students to pursue careers in allied health, health and mental health care; and facilitate the development of a diverse pipeline of workers from the local community, including those who have a background with the criminal justice system.

4.9 Women's Health

1. Support proposals to fund the development and delivery of child care and transportation services to enable all women to obtain timely and adequate health, behavioral health, and social services.
2. Support proposals that expand access to and provide funding for a full range of prevention and treatment services for all women, including removing barriers to access, expanding payors, and improving outreach and education.
3. Support measures to increase the availability of and funding for prevention, diagnostic, and treatment services for women affected by obesity, cardiovascular disease, cancer, osteoporosis, and other chronic diseases.
4. Support legislation which would establish the Eugenics Sterilization Compensation Program and compensate survivors of involuntary sterilization under California's eugenic law.
5. Support proposals that provide reparations for the survivors of forced sterilizations at LAC+USC Medical Center.
6. Support legislative and funding proposals intended to reduce the cost of feminine products and diapers, to cover the cost of providing these free products to low-income residents, and/or to allow government benefits to cover the cost of feminine hygiene products and diapers.
7. Support proposals to adopt amendments to the California Constitution to explicitly enshrine the fundamental rights of privacy essential to personal liberty, including the right to access contraceptives, the right to access abortion, and the right to same-sex marriage.

8. Support proposals that enhance, expand, and protect pregnant people's right to abortion services.
9. Support legislation that protects or provides additional funding for abortion rights and access to reproductive health

4.10 Implementation of Health Care Reform

1. Support legislation that would implement provisions of federal health care reform by increasing access to care while maintaining and/or expanding the County's funding as a safety net provider to continue health care, emergency and trauma care services, and medical education programs through the existing infrastructure of hospitals, health centers, and public-private partnerships.
2. Oppose legislation that would result in the reduction of the County's funding as a safety net provider of health care to the uninsured, emergency and trauma care services, and medical educational programs in order to implement federal health care reform.
3. Support proposals to reform Medicaid, including the State Safety Net Care Pool and Section 1115 Waiver components, to increase Medicaid funds for priority areas, such as primary and preventive health care, without reducing total available Medicaid funding levels.
4. Support proposals which define essential health benefits, pursuant to federal health care reform, in a comprehensive manner that promote high-quality, patient-centered, and cost-effective health care service.
5. Support proposals that expand health care coverage to the fullest extent allowed under the Affordable Care Act, without eroding existing coverage.
6. Support proposals that simplify the health coverage enrollment and renewal processes to administer and facilitate use and access for clients.
7. Support proposals that simplify and coordinate the health care enrollment and renewal process with existing programs such as CalFresh; and continue the use of county human services agencies to administer initial and ongoing Medi-Cal eligibility, including the California Statewide Automated Welfare System (CalSAWS), which interfaces with the Health Care Exchange.
8. Support proposals that expand and enhance data matching to minimize paper verifications and decrease processing time for enrollment for health care coverage.
9. Support proposals that provide the expeditious resolution of critical California Healthcare Eligibility, Enrollment, and Retention System issues to ensure that counties can effectively provide health care coverage to eligible residents.
10. Support proposals that provide coverage expansion built upon the traditional delivery systems used by the Medi-Cal and uninsured such as the Two-Plan Model and safety net providers.

11. Support legislation to implement a new five-year federal 1115 Medicaid waiver, and/or other State proposals that may replace or enhance components of prior Section 1115 waivers with other revenue programs.
12. Support proposals that include incentives for providers to deliver high-quality, coordinated, integrated, and cost-effective care across all levels of health care delivery.
13. Support proposals to ensure that coverage expansion includes mechanisms that protect existing patient-provider relationships from unnecessary disruption and ensure continuity of care.
14. Support proposals that create comprehensive benefits to the fullest extent allowed in the Affordable Care Act, including mental health and substance use disorder services, without eroding previously implemented federal Medical options and existing waivers.
15. Support proposals that maintain the Prevention and Public Health Fund, recognizing that health improvement results from investments in population health efforts and not just medical care.
16. Support proposals that continue funding for the safety net system to maintain or extend services for populations not covered by the Affordable Care Act, and oppose proposals that would transfer fiscal responsibility for expanded health care services to counties.
17. Support proposals that allow the State to take full advantage of opportunities under the Affordable Care Act to maximize revenues such as, opting into enhanced benefits, special payments and incentives for innovation and quality.
18. Support proposals that seek to minimize disruption in patient care and that help ensure access to essential HIV services, including support services, as patients transition from federal Ryan White-funded services to other systems of care supported by the federal Medicaid Expansion.

4.11 Health Care Delivery System

1. Support proposals to define medical homes as medical care based on the patient's health and behavioral health needs that are provided and coordinated by a multi-disciplinary team which includes, but is not limited to, physicians and nurses.
2. Support proposals to allow nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and/or similar personnel, to work independently with patients, including as part of a physician-led multi-disciplinary team when appropriate, providing medical home/clinical care to patients.
3. Support proposals that provide funding for and promote services by an ambulatory care network as the provider of preventive outpatient services.
4. Support proposals for an "all-payer" payment system that sets prices for health care providers and plans throughout the State with the aim of reducing administrative burdens, improving efficiency of the delivery of health care, and maintaining access to health care for all residents.

5. Support policies that reduce drug costs and improve transparency of pharmacy benefit managers.
6. Support proposals to implement and fund telehealth programs for the delivery of medical, mental health, and SUD care and services.
7. Oppose measures that restrict the autonomy and flexibility of public hospitals and clinics to affiliate, acquire, or change control or governance of facilities.
8. Support proposals to support the safe and sustained operations of skilled nursing facilities and other licensed congregate health care facilities, including long-term care, assisted living, board and cares, and mental health rehabilitation centers, during public health emergencies and natural disasters.
9. Support funding proposals for the County's reuse initiatives at the LAC+USC Medical Center Campus, including for the Restorative Care Village and for the adaptive reuse of the General Hospital building.

4.12 Integrated Data Sharing

1. Support proposals that create or expand integrated information sharing systems for health, mental health, homelessness and housing, human services programs, and social service programs for the purposes of assessment and linking individuals and families to services, and which ensure the legal rights and privacy of the individual or families receiving services.

4.13 Dental Health Coverage

1. Support proposals to require public and private insurers to offer full coverage for dental and oral health care services.
2. Support proposals that improve access to dental and oral health care services for children and adults.

5. MENTAL HEALTH

1. Support legislation to require private health plans to pay for mental health care and substance abuse disorder services in parity with coverage for physical disorders including specific penalties or consequences for non-compliance.
2. Support reform of the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act and related laws in a manner that would serve and protect the mentally ill, provide whole person care, protect patients' rights, increase funding for services mandated by the Act, and promote patient engagement in their mental health treatment.
3. Support and/or sponsor legislation that amends the definition of gravely disabled to consider an individual's inability to provide and/or access urgently needed medical care due to a mental disorder.
4. Support proposals to fully fund outpatient treatment services for all individuals who may be either involuntarily committed or seek voluntary treatment.

5. Support proposals and funding for mental health services for children including, but not limited to, prevention and early intervention, multi-disciplinary approaches and training, children's systems of care, community treatment facilities, treatment for juvenile offenders, coordination of transitional youth services, and school-based mental health services.
6. Support legislation to provide increased funding for mental health services for adults and older adults including adult and homeless systems of care, Adult Protective Services, Public Guardian and Conservatorship Services, substance abuse treatment, Institutions for Mental Disease reform, joint law enforcement and mental health teams, and to allow Medi-Cal reimbursement for Public Guardian and Conservatorship Services.
7. Support proposals to fund mental health services to CalWORKs recipients, multi-agency training and coordination for suicide prevention, emergency services for disaster relief response, and recruitment, training and retention of mental health professionals including certified peer support specialists.
8. Support proposals to increase funding for specialized mental health and substance use disorder training to first responders, including law enforcement, fire personnel, probation officers, emergency medical personnel, and health care practitioners.
9. Support proposals to increase funding for prevention, diversion, housing, and intervention services for individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders and delinquent and/or emotionally disturbed minors to divert them from the criminal justice system.
10. Support proposals that require managed care plans to contract with, and/or reimburse, counties for crisis and specialty mental health services provided to managed care beneficiaries at the full cost of providing the service.
11. Support proposals to adequately fund county-operated Medi-Cal managed mental care plans, and support the establishment of regulations that effectively support the provision and monitoring of high-quality mental health services.
12. Support proposals that enhance increased treatment for the mentally ill homeless individuals, families, and children.
13. Support legislation to provide funding for mental health and substance abuse treatment for locally incarcerated juveniles and adults.
14. Support proposals to fully fund a complete continuum of mental health services, facility placements or housing options, and define a transition and linkage process for parolees, including for example, those on nonrevocable parole status, those on Post-Release Community Supervision established by the 2011 Public Safety Realignment, and State-supervised parolees.
15. Support proposals to provide permanent and adequate funding of Early and Periodic screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) including but not limited to the 2011 Public Safety Realignment allocation formula.

16. Support proposals to allow local Child Death Review Teams to expand the scope of child suicide death reviews to include suicides of young adults from 18 to 24 years of age.
17. Support efforts to increase mental health education and training slots at public universities and teaching hospitals, expand workforce development funding and training programs for mental health and other allied health professions, and increase efforts to recruit mental health specialists to work with difficult-to-reach and underserved populations.
18. Support efforts to provide cultural and linguistic competence standards for all mental health programs in order to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate care.
19. Support proposals to increase the utilization of mental health services in ethnic communities through the development of culturally appropriate outreach messaging and marketing campaigns.
20. Support legislation that will allow county mental health departments greater flexibility regarding specific assistance such as transportation and wraparound services for children, funded through EPSDT Medi-Cal in response to the Katie A. lawsuit, which is a negotiated settlement agreement requiring services to be provided in the home rather than in residential placements.
21. Support proposals that promote the integration of health, mental health, and substance abuse treatment for at-risk populations such as persons with a primary diagnosis of mental illness in a manner that protects the special needs of that population; and support legislation that establishes a behavioral health care home within the County mental health departments for such individuals.
22. Support proposals that increase funding and the availability of beds at Institutions for Mental Disease and State hospital psychiatric facilities to reduce the impact of overcrowding on emergency and inpatient resources for mentally ill individuals who no longer need acute care and for individuals with criminal histories.
23. Support proposals that enable individuals with serious mental illness to receive treatment in the community, including with amendments to the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program.
24. Support proposals that clarify that public guardian services are mandated by the State and that reimbursement for related continuing education is a required mandated function.
25. Support proposals that increase opportunities for and streamline the siting of mental health residential and outpatient treatment facilities.
26. Support legislation that allows Medi-Cal reimbursement for mental health services and primary care services provided to the same individual on the same day.
27. Support proposals that allow local jurisdictions to provide input into the development of a reversion mechanism for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and proposals that provide additional time and/or greater flexibility in planning for and spending MHSA funding.

28. Support proposals that preserve important protections for mental health patients who may be inappropriately or involuntarily transferred by an emergency room to a psychiatric hospital that may not be adequately equipped to provide necessary diagnosis services for life threatening medical conditions; and oppose the shifting of costs for and responsibilities of patients to an already burdened Psychiatric Emergency Services system without a guarantee of improved patient outcomes.
29. Support proposals that would allow the utilization of County land and changes in statute and regulations to establish restorative care programs/villages that include treatment programs funded by the State.
30. Support proposals that would increase the length of time, beyond 24 hours and up to 72 hours, that a mental health urgent care center may hold a person to provide crisis stabilization services when medically necessary, and provide a payment for the increased length of stay.
31. Support proposals that would allow medical experts to share details with a court about a proposed conservatee that are observed by other medical personnel and staff as recorded in a medical record, and not just those directly observed as limited by *People v. Sanchez*, 63 Cal. 4th 665.
32. Support proposals that would shift California's public behavioral health system to one based on population outcomes and that increase programming and funding for services that address the social determinants, equity, and preventions.
33. Support proposals that protect and preserve Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding for county behavioral health systems and oppose proposals that divert MHSA funds for other activities.
34. Support proposals to preserve, backfill, and expand the 1991 and 2011 Realignment funding for county behavioral health.
35. Support legislation, such as the Miles Hall Lifeline Act, that establishes a formal office and structure within the State government for implementation, administration, and funding of the 9-8-8 crisis call center network and connected crisis services in California.
36. Support proposals and funding that promote the adoption of Culturally Defined Evidence Practices and other culturally and linguistically appropriate care, including but not limited, to provision of services from traditional healers and community practitioners.
37. Support legislation that permits people with mental illness to state their preferences for treatment in advance of a mental health crisis through a Psychiatric Advance Directive

5.1 Residential Care Facilities

1. Support proposals to establish adequate and equitable care and supervision payment rates for residential care facilities that serve persons with psychiatric disabilities, including proposals to make residential facilities such as Adult Residential Facilities (ARF) and Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE), a State or federal benefit.

2. Support legislation to authorize appropriate access for County Patients' Rights Advocates to facilities that are not licensed and alleged to be in violation of licensing law or regulation, in order to monitor conditions and make a determination regarding appropriate placement and safety of facility residents.
3. Support legislation to expand sanctions to enforce the citation of a community care facility determined to be unlicensed, including: 1) granting County Health Officers authority to close an unlicensed facility; 2) establishing clear criteria for such a closure; and 3) allowing the District Attorney the flexibility to determine if the matter will be adjudicated as a misdemeanor or a felony.
4. Support legislation to require the State to regulate and establish standards for Recovery Homes and Sober Living Homes to ensure their safety.
5. Support proposals that eliminate the barriers to stabilize and expand the ARF and RCFE network, and support proposals to increase funding to increase their availability.
6. Support proposals that create a monthly stipend for residential care facilities caring for Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) recipients.

6. HOUSING, ECONOMIC, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Support proposals that provide incentives to local governments and/or developers to increase and protect affordable and mixed-income housing, and that provide flexibility for counties to promote a diversity of affordable housing types through local land use policies.
2. Oppose legislation which would require local governments to impose one size fits all solutions to preserving and creating new affordable housing, in particular, prescribed development standards and densities/intensities, or which would result in significant displacement of existing low- and moderate-income residents or a net loss of existing affordable housing units.
3. Support proposals that increase home ownership opportunities for low-, moderate-, and middle-income families.
4. Support proposals to provide additional resources for meeting the capital and operational costs of housing production and related supportive service needs of low- and moderate-income families and of special populations, including homeless, elderly, disabled and mentally ill persons, and transitional age youth.
5. Support measures that promote economic incentives as a means of creation, attraction, and retention of business, including small business, in the County, especially business that will create, attract, or retain jobs in high poverty and unemployment areas.
6. Support proposals which would stimulate the local economy by accelerating or increasing spending on public works and infrastructure projects, especially those which would improve public health and public safety, mitigate hazards, including climate hazards, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, or improve transportation.

7. Oppose legislation that would redirect redevelopment agency property tax increment from local redevelopment agencies to the State.
8. Oppose proposals to permanently prohibit the issuance of redevelopment tax allocation bonds.
9. Support legislation to distribute State housing funds to local jurisdictions based upon population and poverty levels.
10. Support revisions to the prevailing wage provisions of California Labor Code Section 1720 in order to minimize the impact upon affordable housing production.
11. Support legislation to provide Public Housing Authorities expanded access to criminal records, employment information, public assistance records, and other information that pertains to participant information for housing purposes for prevention of fraud and other criminal activity.
12. Support legislation to encourage health care services or establish grants for the operation of new and existing urban health care services programs and projects in medically underserved and urban areas.
13. Oppose changes to landlord/tenant laws that would involve public housing authorities in the legal process between tenants and their landlords.
14. Support proposals to address affordable housing needs on a multi-jurisdictional basis.
15. Support legislation that increases resources to clean-up and redevelop Brownfields.
16. Support legislation that continues the requirement for landlords to provide tenants that are on assisted programs with at least 90-day notice to move in order to allow sufficient time to complete the process.
17. Oppose proposals that substitute Proposition 1C (Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006) bond funding for existing housing and infrastructure resources.
18. Support the direct pass-through of federal housing and community development funds to units of local government, including Los Angeles County, to be distributed in an equitable manner and without additional restrictions.
19. Support legislation that provides Public Housing Authorities with flexibility to administer and use public housing and Section 8 Program funds, as well as revenues generated from the Rental Housing Construction Program.
20. Support legislation that promotes the State's adoption of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development guidelines for calculation of rents and incomes for affordable housing to increase eligibility, rather than maintaining separate State standards which would reduce the number of individuals able to apply for affordable housing.
21. Support legislation to allow eligible taxing agencies, public agencies, or nonprofit organizations to purchase tax-defaulted property to construct or rehabilitate

residential or mixed-use residential/commercial buildings that incorporate an affordable housing and social services component that has a public benefit.

22. Support legislation that maintains the County's ability to protect its residents and commercial tenant establishments.
23. Support legislation that would expand the definition of source of income in the California Fair Employment and Housing Act to include lawful, verifiable income paid to a housing owner or landlord on behalf of a tenant, including federal, State, or local public assistance, housing subsidies, and housing assistance vouchers, including, but not limited to, federal housing assistance vouchers under Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937.
24. Support proposals that stimulate regional investment and encourage private sector participation in advancing equitable and sustainable growth, including through the support of high-growth and emerging industries, including, but not limited to, life sciences/biosciences, arts, culture, leisure and hospitality (including entertainment/sports), creative economies (including television, film, and digital media), technology, health care, trade, child care, manufacturing (including rail/bus manufacturing, other advanced transportation manufacturing and maintenance and green chemistry/clean manufacturing), and support proposals which would facilitate job training and educational opportunities that will train a workforce capable of supporting those industries.
25. Support or advocate for proposals that would promote the growth of the creative economy, which includes, but is not limited to, the fields of arts, sports, entertainment, and culture.
26. Support proposals that would help curb unjust evictions by prohibiting landlords from evicting tenants without just cause and/or written notice.
27. Support proposals that would protect tenants from large unforeseen rent increases by placing an upper limit on annual rent increases and limiting rent increases to once per year.
28. Support proposals that would allow local governments to use local property tax revenues to incur debt or issue bonds to fund State-approved affordable housing and housing-related infrastructure projects.
29. Support or sponsor legislation that would create new financial incentives, including an expansion of property tax the welfare exemption for units covenanted at up to 120 percent of Area Median Income, to facilitate development of affordable housing around transit.
30. Support or sponsor legislation to provide temporary property tax exemptions to finance accessory dwelling units for senior and low-income homeowners.
31. Support proposals that would spur economic growth and promote economic recovery after declared emergencies or disasters.

32. Support proposals, such as rental, mortgage, or legal assistance, that would aid in preventing evictions and foreclosures of residential tenants, small landlords, and small businesses.
33. Support or sponsor proposals which would extend the duration of affordability covenants for housing developments that receive public subsidies, or which would, in cases where funding programs have different requirements, give precedence to the affordability covenant term that is longer.
34. Oppose legislation that would increase housing density in very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.
35. Support proposals to promote the development and growth of community land trusts, housing cooperatives, and other models for the provision of permanently affordable rental and ownership opportunities.
36. Support proposals that would enable the County to acquire properties owned by Caltrans for the State Route-710 North Project and to preserve them as long-term affordable housing.
37. Support proposals that would provide funding for the Stay Housed LA Program, such as access to counsel for eviction legal services.
38. Support proposals that repeal Article 34 from California's constitution, which has been identified as an antiquated and 'racist rule' that requires cities to get voter approval to build low-rent housing when using public dollars.
39. Support proposals that support urban and regenerative agriculture, including through funding and the use of public and private land.
40. Support proposals that would: 1) promote a just transition to the green economy, including support for green industries and their workforce; and 2) ensure job seekers and current workers, particularly those who are low income and/or reside in disadvantaged communities, receive necessary workforce development, training, and supportive services to allow for a transition into a green economy with dignity and without bearing the costs of change.
41. Support proposals to protect residential and commercial tenants from displacement impacts from activities such as housing repairs, improvements, and community investment, including, but not limited to, right to counsel, rent escrow, rent control, just cause eviction, and "right-to-return" ordinances.
42. Support proposals that promote transitions to a zero-carbon or carbon negative energy system that reduces air and climate pollution and that minimizes the dangers of a changing climate to our communities and economy.
43. Support proposals and policies that integrate climate resilience and adaptation into planning, buildings, infrastructure, and community development.
44. Support proposals and policies that ensure that people stay in place and are not displaced when there are public investments, particularly in disadvantaged communities.

45. Support proposals that provide funding for programs that support community members across different age, income, ethnicity, and language groups to actively and meaningfully engage in decision-making related to sustainability efforts.
46. Support proposals and legislation which aim to increase nine percent federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit allocations.
47. Support legislation that prioritizes first-time homebuyers in home sales, such as the providing of financial incentives to sellers.
48. Support proposals that support equitable and inclusive economic development, including through infrastructure investments and capital development projects that include robust stakeholder engagement, community benefit commitments, and quality jobs for local communities.
49. Support proposals that seek to end speculative evictions by repealing and/or reforming the Ellis Act.
50. Support proposals that invest in Social Housing, including anti-displacement policies and repeal discriminatory housing laws.
51. Support proposals that would establish a Los Angeles Black Housing Fund.
52. Support proposals that promote and/or provide resources for community-based approaches to emergency response.
53. Support proposals that would remove administrative barriers and/or provide resources to strengthen tenant protections and improve housing stability, particularly for individuals and families at-risk of housing instability or homelessness.

7. JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

7.1 General

1. Support reimbursement of County costs for the prosecution and defense of new crimes.
2. Support increased State funding for multi-agency collaborative justice programs.
3. Support funding to expand video conferencing by law enforcement agencies, including the Sheriff, the Probation Department, District Attorney, Public Defender, and Alternate Public Defender consistent with existing law.
4. Support full funding of the Community Law Enforcement and Recovery Program.
5. Support legislation to provide funding for direct community investment to support safety, health, and economic self-sufficiency in public housing communities.
6. Support legislation to add any chemical used to make illegal drugs to the list of essential chemicals considered necessary for the manufacture of illegal drugs.
7. Support proposals to maintain and enhance State funding for training under the

Standards and Training for Corrections Program to support mandatory training for Sheriff's and Probation Department personnel, as well as additional training to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and the personal safety of these employees.

8. Support legislation to enable law enforcement to implement vehicular forfeiture ordinances related to racing, rallying, and exhibitionist driving on local roads, streets, and highways.
9. Support legislation that would add code enforcement officials to the list of specified public employees and their families whose personal information should be kept confidential from public inspection or inquiry.
10. Support legislation to allow the County to charge full civil process serving costs.
11. Support proposals that impose civil and/or criminal penalties on licensed foster and child care providers who allow and/or fail to report registered sex offenders on or near their facilities.
12. Support proposals to provide funding for information technology initiatives that assist criminal justice agencies to integrate, upgrade, and maintain justice information systems.
13. Support proposals to amend Government Code Section 27701 to expand the job qualifications for applicants to the position of county public defender to include sitting or retired judges, judicial commissioners, magistrates, referees, or elected public officials.
14. Support proposals to enhance criminal penalties for persons who commit assaults against health care or mental health service providers while in the performance of their duties.
15. Support funding for and proposals that direct the California Department of Motor Vehicles to work with counties to assist county jail inmates, State prison inmates, Post Release Community Supervision offenders, and youth in juvenile justice facilities, including those deemed to be homeless, to apply for and receive a California Driver's License or Identification Card free of charge, prior to being released from custody as well as obtain vital records like their birth certificates.
16. Support legislation to increase the criminal penalties for assaults against rail and bus operators.
17. Support proposals that would allow local government agencies to match anonymous criminal justice, public health, substance use disorder data, and mental health data, pertinent to justice-involved individuals and which has been de-identified by the appropriate bodies/departments, through a secure, central database for statistical analysis and reporting.
18. Support or pursue proposals that would expand eligibility of State-funded victim resources to family members of victims of fatal use of force by law enforcement and in-custody deaths.

19. Support proposals that would require the State to fully fund the defense of death penalty cases pursuant to current law.
20. Support proposals designed to prevent the discriminatory use of the death penalty in California.
21. Support cost-neutral proposals that increase transparency and prioritize the timely release of public information to all criminal justice partners.
22. Support proposals that increase the integrity of criminal convictions by facilitating access to information in peace officer personnel records which involve moral turpitude.
23. Support proposals that would require cities that elect to pay for the criminal prosecution of violations of city and municipal ordinances to pay for constitutionally required indigent defense.
24. Support proposals to provide State funding for Public Defender services for non-criminal/civil matters as authorized under current law.
25. Support proposals to provide funding to support the self-help legal access centers.
26. Support legislation that would facilitate the sharing of unlawful detainer data between local court systems and agencies that provide eviction prevention and defense services to tenants and individuals at-risk of homelessness.
27. Support legislative and funding proposals that aim to reduce rates of missing and murdered women of color, indigenous women, and transgender women, including by improving collaboration between State and local law enforcement agencies.
28. Support legislation and funding that seeks to reduce the disproportionate impact of juvenile and adult incarceration on people of color.
29. Support proposals that eliminate criminal system administrative fines and fees imposed by the State and provide adequate alternative resources to cover any potential revenue losses, including to local jurisdictions.
30. Support proposals that provide automatic conviction and records relief for certain felony convictions where time has elapsed since completing the term of incarceration, probation, mandatory supervision, post-release supervision, and/or parole, and where the defendant was not convicted of a new felony.
31. Support State funding and policy changes that may be necessary to support the closure of the Men's Central Jail.
32. Support and/or sponsor legislation that would mandate the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) to create regulations that: revise/eliminate the Work Sample Test Battery and replace it with a health-focused screening tool; incorporate modern day policing skills in the candidate vetting process and in the training academy; or require training be conducted with an adult learning model.

33. Support and/or sponsor legislation that would create a Gender Parity Division within POST to review gender balance issues in law enforcement with regulatory recommendations to achieve gender parity.
34. Support and/or sponsor legislation to require the formation of an independent task force to study specific gender balance issues and make legislative and regulatory recommendations in a report to the Governor and the Legislature.
35. Support proposals and funding that aim to reduce the rates of missing and murdered indigenous women by improving collaboration between law enforcement agencies and other strategies.
36. Support proposals and funding that seek to reduce the disproportionate impact of juvenile and adult incarceration on Native Americans.
37. Support proposals that would reduce racial inequities in the debt-to-income ratio, such as through debt forgiveness, elimination of fines, and fees for low-level infractions.
38. Support proposals that would eliminate the mandated reporting to law enforcement and instead requires providers to refer patients to supportive services.
39. Support proposals that would provide funding for the Stay Housed LA Program, such as access to counsel for eviction legal services.
40. Support policies that increase access to housing opportunities for justice-involved populations.
41. Support policies that reduce barriers to community integration, including barriers to housing, for justice-involved populations.

7.2 Pretrial Recidivism Reduction, and Diversion Programs

1. Support proposals to implement long-term recidivism reduction programs and strategies to address overcrowding in the State prison and county jail systems that do not place additional burden on local government or jeopardize public safety.
2. Support and/or sponsor legislation that eliminates or extends the time period for individuals to file a petition for resentencing of specified felonies to misdemeanors pursuant to Proposition 47 of 2014.
3. Support proposals that would maximize the State savings and funding that would be allocated for Proposition 47 of 2014 grant programs.
4. Support proposals that would distribute funding for Proposition 47 of 2014 grant programs to local agencies based proportionately on the United States Census Bureau Data on poverty thresholds, rates of unemployment and homelessness, populations of probationers, parolees and juvenile offenders, and rates of violent and non-violent crimes.
5. Support proposals that would fund and/or support programs to track the recidivism rates of justice-involved individuals at the county level.

6. Support proposals that would fund and/or support the County's justice system, including assisting the County with correctional treatment facility infrastructure needs and expanding diversion and treatment programs.
7. Support proposals that would fund and/or support establishing collaborative criminal justice rehabilitation and treatment programs between the State and local justice systems.
8. Support proposals that authorize new and/or expand existing pre-filing and post-filing diversion programs while maintaining public safety.
9. Support proposals to create a pretrial release system that mitigates racial and economic disparities while maintaining public safety; and that provides counties with adequate funding for additional costs for all impacted departments and appropriate local control and flexibility.
10. Support State funding for the implementation of mental health diversion pursuant to AB 1810 of 2018, county bail reform efforts, and expansion of various pre-plea diversion programs.
11. Support State proposals to create, fund, and further the development of alternatives to incarceration.
12. Support legislation which would give California voters the opportunity to restore voting rights to those on parole upon completion of a State or federal prison term.
13. Support proposals that would authorize counties and their local court to establish a pretrial diversion program for custodial parents or legal guardians of minor children.
14. Support proposals, where consistent with public safety and the best anti-recidivism practices, to remove mandatory minimum sentencing requirements.
15. Support proposals that fund mental health and substance use disorder treatment for undocumented residents to allow them to access treatment programs in lieu of incarceration.
16. Support proposals that fund mental health and substance use disorder treatment programs that would serve as a means of diverting mentally ill defendants out of the criminal justice system and into treatment, where consistent with public safety.
17. Support proposals that eliminate past gang membership as a disqualifier for court treatment programs.
18. Support proposals that promote and provide funding for arts-based programming, alternatives to incarceration, community violence intervention and peer mentoring, and services for justice-involved individuals and communities at risk of becoming justice-involved.
19. Support proposals that would streamline Proposition 64 dismissals and sealing by providing a mandatory time within which an application must be processed and decided; and require that dismissal orders include critically relevant existing statutory language for orders granting or denying relief.

20. Support State funding for County pretrial reforms and proposals that provide flexibility to identify and implement best practices for pretrial reform.

7.3 2011 Public Safety Realignment and AB 109 Program

1. Support proposals to provide additional funding to district attorneys, public defenders, and alternate public defenders to conduct revocation hearings for individuals under Post Release Community Supervision, parole, and mandatory supervision.
2. Support legislation that would amend the criteria for Post-Release Community Supervision under AB 109 (Chapter 15, Statutes of 2011) to consider a State prison inmate's past violent or serious criminal history or history of sexual offenses.
3. Support legislation that would prohibit the State from releasing a State prison inmate to Post-Release Community Supervision under AB 109 (Chapter 15, Statutes of 2011) if that inmate has been previously designated a Mentally Disordered Offender or Mentally Disordered Sexual Offender.
4. Support proposals to require the State to provide full reimbursement of county jail costs related to the incarceration of current and future inmates sentenced under the provisions of AB 109 of 2011.
5. Support proposals that mitigate the impact on the County criminal justice system as a result of Penal Code section 1170 (h).
6. Support legislation that increases funding for operations and systems integration to effectively provide treatment services and supervision for AB 109 offenders supervised in the community, as well as needed clinical and behavioral health care within the jails.
7. Support legislation that increases funding for infrastructure and facilities improvements to adequately address population management and the needs of AB 109 inmates, especially those with acute and chronic illness and serious mental health issues.
8. Support proposals that would increase funding for AB 109 programs and oppose proposals that would reduce the County's base share of AB 109 funding.

7.4 Probation

1. Support funding for the Developing Increased Safety through Arms Recovery Management Program.
2. Support State funding of adult probation services, and local assistance to cities and counties for correctional officer training programs.
3. Support legislation to assist probation departments in verifying that arsonists register with local law enforcement agencies, as required, by ensuring that probation departments are notified of violators who report directly to court.
4. Oppose measures that impose a reduction in probation officer caseloads without adequate funding.

5. Support measures to hold convicted adults accountable for the costs of probation, Post-Release Community Supervision, and/or court-ordered mandatory probation services based on their ability to pay, and authorize collection by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and county sheriffs' departments of court-ordered financial obligations payable to counties and county agencies from State prisoners, county jail inmates, parolees, and individuals under probation supervision.
6. Support legislation to fund continuous electronic monitoring programs for probationers.
7. Support legislation to allow probation departments to register narcotics offenders when the Chief Probation Officer determines there is a need to perform this task and when the resources are available.
8. Support legislation to restore the ability of the Board of Supervisors to order the distribution of court ordered installment payments.
9. Support legislation to authorize government agencies to exchange information regarding individuals on probation, Post-Release Community Supervision, and/or court-ordered mandatory probation to the full extent authorized by federal law, while ensuring adequate due process protections.
10. Support funding for adult probation, Post-Release Community Supervision, and court-ordered mandatory probation, to reduce recidivism in the local and State criminal justice system.
11. Support legislation to require the State to provide full funding for the treatment and programming needs of its parolees in the community.
12. Support legislation authorizing day reporting centers and other community-based alternatives to incarceration for probationers, individuals under Post-Release Community Supervision, and/or court-ordered mandatory probation designed to increase supervision of probationers to ensure they receive appropriate types of program services and treatment.
13. Support proposals to authorize the creation and operation of multi-disciplinary teams to share case information related to an adult probationer, individuals under Post-Release Community Supervision, and/or court-ordered mandatory probation that is deemed appropriate to determine the proper treatment, supervision, and disposition of that person.
14. Support legislation to authorize the sharing of information among community corrections multi-disciplinary team members and that requires the team members to maintain privacy and confidentiality requirements, and penalties for disclosing information or documents.
15. Support proposals that would provide additional funding for programs, services, and facilities that provide a continuum of services to adult probation populations, including health, mental health, peer mentoring and restorative justice programs, and substance use disorder screenings and treatment services.

7.5 Juvenile Justice

1. Support proposals to ensure that each county receives annual funding for emergency assistance for juvenile probation services in an amount at least equal to the Federal TANF Grant funds received by counties in Federal Fiscal Year 1995.
2. Support increased State funding for housing programs for delinquent youth.
3. Support proposals to increase funding for programs for delinquent and/or emotionally disturbed minors who require intensive case management services or for alternatives to camp placement, including public/private partnerships.
4. Support proposals to provide funding for prevention and intervention programs for youth at risk of becoming involved or who are currently involved in the juvenile justice system.
5. Support proposals to provide funding for programs, services, and facilities that provide a continuum of services to detained minors, including health and mental health screenings, assessments, and treatment services.
6. Support proposals to provide funding for information technology initiatives that assist juvenile justice agencies to integrate, upgrade, and maintain justice systems.
7. Support proposals to increase funding for the High-Risk Youth Education and Safety Plan which funds services to youths in transition from juvenile camps and ranches.
8. Support proposals to provide full funding of the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act and strengthen provisions and funding structures to ensure effective delinquency prevention.
9. Support legislation to address concerns related to juvenile justice reforms including adequate funding for new population and services, dedicated revenue source and annual cost adjustments, transition and start-up costs, protection against cost shifting, county recourse in the event of slow payments and inadequate rates, and education programs.
10. Support legislation for additional funding for Juvenile Court Community Schools which could include adopting an alternative to the average daily attendance formula that is agreed upon between the County and the Los Angeles County Office of Education. The County would support legislation seeking the maximum allowable funding for these schools in order to ensure that all youths in the juvenile justice system receive the level of educational services to which they are entitled.
11. Support legislation to provide or enhance the County's flexibility to deliver educational services through multiple providers, including implementation of independent charter school programs designed to improve the delivery of educational services to minors in probation camps and halls.
12. Support the California County Superintendents' Educational Services Association proposal to modify the current funding formula for juvenile court schools to one that is based on a bed-unit enhancement plus Average Daily Attendance model.

13. Support proposals to provide full funding, adjusted for inflation, for the Youth Offender Block Grant.
14. Support proposals for new funding to increase access to quality child care and develop programs that strengthen parenting skills and promote optimal child development for pregnant and parenting youth involved in the juvenile justice system.
15. Support proposals to provide resources to enhance the juvenile mental health competency process, including shortening the timeline for formal competence proceedings and providing adequate funding for mental health and supportive services to juveniles detained pending their competency proceedings or remediation.
16. Support proposals to eliminate the fee paid by counties to house a juvenile at the California Division of Juvenile Justice, as well as proposals to divert juvenile offenders away from both State and local detainment and into community-based rehabilitation programs.
17. Support proposals that would require that a minor consult with legal counsel, in person, by telephone, or by video conference, prior to a custodial interrogation and before waiving their Miranda rights.
18. Support proposals that provide funding or support for programs, services, and facilities for arts instruction for youth in all active County youth detention facilities and juvenile day reporting centers as part of a comprehensive, multi-agency juvenile justice plan.
19. Support proposals that would enhance the County's efforts to restructure its juvenile justice system in order to shift-away from a punitive paradigm towards a rehabilitative, health-focused, and care-first system that further reduces the County's reliance on incarceration.
20. Support measures that would ensure that indigent children and youth that rely on public health care services are not disadvantaged, but instead have the same protections and privileges as that of persons who receive private health services.
21. Support proposals that would create and require posting of a Youth Bill of Rights for incarcerated youth at all juvenile facilities.

7.6 Inmate Facilities and Programs

1. Support full funding of the cost to house individuals who belong in State prison or who are the responsibility of the State, so the County can avoid expending its own resources for this purpose.
2. Support funding for the construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance of County adult detention facilities to mitigate current overcrowding conditions and to improve access to various forms of treatment for those incarcerated.
3. Support legislation or proposals which provide authority for the involuntary placement of low-level offenders on electronic monitoring which would allow the County to keep high level offenders for a larger percentage of their sentence.
4. Support legislation or proposals which reduce the time State prisoners remain in the County jail once sentenced to prison.

5. Support legislation to waive State licensing fees for a health facility providing services to inmates located in a county detention facility and restore a license fee exemption for all county owned facilities.
6. Support legislation to authorize local governments to participate with the appropriate State agencies in post-release program planning at State prisons for those inmates to be released in the county for the purpose of providing these inmates with effective treatment programs consistent with the maintenance of public safety.
7. Support legislation to encourage State and local agencies to collaboratively prepare and implement inmate plans for treatment and programming at the earliest possible time during their incarceration in order to maximize the length of time available for effective treatment.
8. Support measures that provide funding for the construction, renovation, rehabilitation, and operation of juvenile justice facilities.
9. Support legislation to enable the Probation Department to operate independent charter schools at probation camps and halls.
10. Support proposals to house prison and/or jail inmates in alternative custody facilities including public, private, and community-based facilities that are better suited to treating justice-involved individuals with mental health, substance use disorder, gender/sexual orientation, and/or other critical needs.

7.7 Sex Offenders and Human Trafficking

1. Support legislation to broaden the scope of information about sex offenders that can be provided over the internet and strengthen reporting requirements under Megan's Law.
2. Support proposals that address crimes against children including issues of internet privacy, cyber bullying, sexting, sextortion, and the strengthening of default settings to protect privacy of information sharing on social networking websites and wireless devices.
3. Support legislation to assist probation departments in verifying that sex offenders register with local law enforcement agencies, as required, by ensuring that probation departments are notified of violators who report directly to court.
4. Support legislation that adds pimping, pandering, and human trafficking to the list of crimes that establish a pattern of criminal gang activity and makes individuals eligible for sentencing enhancements pursuant to Proposition 21 of 2000.
5. Support legislation to increase the penalties for individuals involved in the commercial sexual exploitation of minors, including those that engage in pimping underage individuals and the consumers who solicit minors.
6. Support proposals that develop or enhance programs and services, and increase protections for victims of commercial sexual exploitation, labor exploitation, and human trafficking.

7. Support proposals that provide funding for training related to the identification, intervention, and prevention of labor and sex trafficking, including the commercial sexual exploitation of children.
8. Support proposals that provide increased State funding for counties to help serve survivors of human trafficking, including commercially sexually exploited children.
9. Support proposals that enhance the County's ability to safely house and protect survivors of human trafficking, including commercially sexually exploited children.
10. Support legislation to amend Penal Code Statutes related to Sexually Violent Predators to require notification of conditional release hearings to potential counties of domicile and to victims.

7.8 Gun Violence

1. Support proposals to provide funding to support activities aimed at confiscating firearms from those prohibited from possessing such weapons.
2. Support legislation to require an individual to obtain an ammunition purchase permit or authorization prior to the purchase of any type of ammunition.
3. Support legislation or proposals that would help reduce the proliferation and purchase of firearms by increasing restrictions related to ghost guns and other firearms, expanding prohibitions for the manufacturer or new firearms, or imposing new excise taxes related to the purchase of certain firearms.
4. Support legislation that would expand those eligible to petition for gun violence restraining orders.
5. Support proposals that would prohibit persons who are on the United States Federal Bureau of Investigations' No Fly List from purchasing or possessing a firearm.

7.9 Fire

1. Support proposals to provide financial assistance to local governments for the acquisition of fire apparatus, including rotary and fixed-wing aircraft.
2. Support legislation mandating and/or funding the installation of fire protection systems in new commercial, multi-residential, educational, and institutional facilities.
3. Support proposals to provide funding for the Office of State Fire Marshal for training, education, and code enforcement.
4. Oppose legislation that would require local fire agencies to assume responsibility for the disposal of illegal fireworks.
5. Support legislation that would require or encourage the use of fire-resistant building materials.
6. Support legislation that would provide funding for a standardized fire service training program.

7. Oppose proposals that impede the ability to fight fires or ensure timely weed hazard abatement through use of most effective methods to eliminate fire risks.
8. Support proposals that would remove deed restrictions to allow a municipal government to sell a portion of State-owned property utilized for fire protection services to a county fire district without the property reverting to the State.
9. Oppose legislation which would bypass or notably streamline fire planning or inspection processes for rooftop solar construction.
10. Support proposals to fund equipment and training programs for local fire service agencies and other emergency responders who respond to hazardous material incidents.
11. Support legislation that would expand eligibility and federal funding through the Medi-Cal program for Emergency Medical Services first responders.
12. Support proposals which would increase funding for local fire prevention and fire safety services.
13. Support proposals that would establish statewide standards for the use of reclaimed water systems for hydrant and fire protection systems.
14. Support legislation that would require and/or would incentivize the installation of adequate water supply and fire protection systems in the construction of new mobile home and/or special occupancy parks.
15. Support legislation to enhance hazardous materials management enforcement and penalties for safety violations at high-risk hazardous materials facilities.
16. Support proposals to create a single statewide registry for hazardous materials specialists.
17. Support proposals to establish and fund firefighter pre-apprenticeship programs to aid local fire agencies in recruiting candidates from underrepresented groups.
18. Support proposals to improve the prevention of wildfires, including, but not limited to, the hardening of homes and the enforcement of defensible space programs.
19. Support proposals that improve workforce safety and protections for fire personnel exposed to harmful or hazardous conditions.
20. Support proposals to support the mental health of first responders and other public safety personnel, including proposals that improve training, standards, and resources for mental health services.
21. Support proposals that would enhance the County's Fire Camp program, including by: 1) establishing eligibility in the State's Ventura Training Center reentry program for people sentenced under AB 109 in Los Angeles County who participated in the Fire Camp program while incarcerated; 2) advocating for funding from the State to ensure that the Fire Department is fully compensated for their work with California

Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's Fire Camp Program; 3) advocating for funding to start a local reentry fire program; and 4) advocating for other resources, funding, and access as needed.

7.10 Animal Care and Control

1. Support legislation to reimburse local governments for the cost of complying with State regulations regarding the impoundment, treatment, care, and housing of all stray and owner-surrendered domestic animals at public animal shelters.
2. Support proposals to prohibit the intentional feeding of select wild animals that present a threat to public safety health or safety, or that create a nuisance.
3. Support or sponsor legislation that would enhance the ability of local animal control agencies to obtain reimbursement from owners for the impoundment and care of their animals pending resolution of existing litigation or an investigation of potential mistreatment, or criminal neglect.
4. Support proposals that would expand the time period for animal care agencies to hold a post-seizure hearing when the agency seizes animals that are allegedly being neglected or abused.
5. Support proposals that clarify that the statutory mandate to release dogs facing euthanasia to rescue organizations upon demand does not require the release of dogs that pose both an unacceptable risk of harm to the public and a significant liability to the municipal agency.
6. Support proposals that provide regulation of non-profit animal rescue and adoption organizations, including providing standards for the: 1) care of animals in their custody; 2) identification of adoptive owners and licensing of animals; and 3) compliance with tax reporting laws.
7. Support proposals that expressly exempt municipal animal shelters from the imposition of strict liability for injuries caused by animals housed in their care.
8. Support or sponsor proposals that authorize animal control officers, when trained and certified, to administer controlled substances in the field for the limited purpose of euthanizing animals that are irremediably suffering.
9. Support efforts at the State and federal levels necessary to eradicate the Yulin and South Korea dog farms practices until these atrocities are eliminated and no dogs/cats are harmed for meat festivals or food consumption.
10. Support legislation that would enhance the ability of the Animal Care and Control Department to provide economical and efficient services to County residents, including, but not limited to, allowing registered and properly trained veterinary technicians to administer rabies vaccinations in an animal shelter setting, without a veterinarian present, for the purpose of issuing dog licenses.
11. Support legislation that would aid in the return of lost or stray animals to their owners, including but not limited to increasing the microchipping or spay/neuter of dogs and cats.

12. Support legislation that would increase criminal and/or civil penalties for the direct involvement in any facet of animal fighting, and legislation that would prohibit individuals from breeding animals for the purpose of being used for animal fighting.
13. Support legislation that would establish training and certification standards for service animals and trainers of service animals.
14. Support legislation that increases the ability of the County to protect the health, safety, or welfare, of animals or people from animals.
15. Oppose legislation that is contrary to the stated mission and goals of the County's Department Animal Care and Control as approved by the Board.
16. Support legislation that increases the ability of the County to regulate animal-related industries or business operations that affect Los Angeles County residents.
17. Support legislation that promotes consumer protection, including but not limited to that which limits the importation or transfer of animals that were produced in substandard breeding operations.

7.11 Trial Court

1. Support measures which would increase the State's participation in trial court funding through the assumption of responsibility for financing court facility construction and maintenance.
2. Support measures which would require the State to fully fund any additional court costs incurred in implementing Proposition 36.
3. Support increased State funding for drug courts including pre-plea drug court programs.
4. Support measures that promote the transfer of trial court facilities to the State in an efficient and fiscally neutral manner.
5. Support measures and funding for the creation and expansion of collaborative courts such as mental health courts, housing courts, drug courts, and/or courts addressing the needs of persons with co-occurring disorders.
6. Oppose proposals to reduce State funding for Trial Courts and support proposals to provide sufficient funding to avoid courtroom and courthouse closures.
7. Support legislation that would create more diverse and more demographically representative juries.
8. Support legislation that would mandate anonymized demographic-based data collection on the race, gender, and ethnicity of jury pools and those selected for jury duty.
9. Support legislation that would adequately compensate jury service for low-income workers and address the financial inequity of jury duty.

10. Support legislation that would bring California's charging nomenclature in line with that used by other states.
11. Support measures that would limit Federal immigration enforcement activity in or near courthouses.
12. Support proposals and pilots that would provide and fund a new court model that would promote community-based services to chronically homeless individuals who are involved with the criminal justice system.

7.12 Forensics and Crime Lab

1. Support funding for the construction, renovation and operation of locally-operated forensic crime laboratories.
2. Support funding to contract out work needed to reduce the DNA testing backlog.
3. Support additional State funding to expand the use of DNA collection and analysis to be used in criminal investigations and prosecutions.
4. Oppose proposals or legislation that increases the Medical Examiner-Coroner's workload or shifts casework to the County from other jurisdictions or entities that would put the County's accreditation at risk.
5. Support proposals that would separate the duties of the Coroner's Office from the duties of the Sheriff's Office.

7.13 Emergency Management and Operations

1. Support proposals to establish statewide standards for implementation and governance of 3-1-1 programs (non-emergency reporting and general government services) and 2-1-1 programs (community information and referral services).
2. Support proposals to provide financial assistance to local agencies for the acquisition of thermal imaging equipment that enables emergency response agencies to identify and locate targets in limited visibility environments.
3. Support legislation and/or administrative action that would provide funding and resources to implement new technical standards for public safety interoperability communications in the Los Angeles Region.
4. Support legislation that would add drivers of vehicles requiring a commercial driver license employed by a local jurisdiction to the existing entities that are exempt, while performing duties related to restoration of services during an emergency, from restrictions related to the maximum number of hours of vehicle operation.

7.14 Disaster Preparedness and Assistance

1. Support funding of local efforts to prevent, prepare for, protect against, respond to, and recover from emergencies and acts of terrorism while minimizing duplication of responsibilities.

2. Support legislation to facilitate prosecution of terrorist threats and establish reasonable punishments.
3. Support proposals to allow the pass-through of Federal funds, such as homeland security, to counties based on threat levels, population, and relative need.
4. Support proposals to fund the development of a coordinated public information program to communicate health risks and disseminate health information in preparation for and in response to emergencies, acts of terrorism, climate disasters, and other catastrophic events.
5. Support proposals to fund for decontamination capabilities at all hospitals.
6. Support proposals to fund regional disaster management systems and resources to respond to medical needs during emergencies, acts of terrorism, and other catastrophic events.
7. Support proposals to provide funding to ensure an adequate and stable supply of vaccine, antidotes, medications, medical supplies, and blood products, and the development of a plan to distribute them in an emergency.
8. Support proposals to provide funding to enhance the preparedness of the public health system and for Emergency Medical Service providers to respond to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive emergencies, acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events.
9. Support proposals to fund mitigation activities including security improvements and equipment for critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, dams, flood control, food and water supply, mass transit facilities, hospitals, and other public structures.
10. Support proposals to fund a coordinated health, mental health, and public health response in the event of a terrorist attack.
11. Support legislation to fund the creation and dissemination of emergency, health or criminal history information, while ensuring adequate due process protections.
12. Support legislation to fund staffing, training, and the purchase of rapid response emergency equipment for first-responder teams including police/sheriff, firefighters, emergency medical services, medical, public health, coroner, hospital emergency staff, emergency management, and other medical professionals.
13. Support legislation that increases funding and/or augments resources for protection against and response to bioterrorism and agroterrorism.
14. Support measures that provide funding for hospitals to respond to disasters and emergencies.
15. Support proposals that would connect small businesses with disaster assistance resources and programs.

16. Support proposal that promote community resilience, such as through the creation of social networks and business readiness plans that support neighborhood-level sufficiency.
17. Support proposals that would ensure that Federal disaster relief allocated to the County includes sufficient funding for the restaurant and hospitality industry.
18. Support proposals that reduce collateral consequences to small business owners resulting from COVID-19, including: 1) restricting reporting of small business commercial debts, including rental debt, to credit reporting bureaus; 2) limiting aggressive debt collection practices against Qualifying Small Business Tenants, including but not limited to, harassment by landlords; and 3) allowing commercial tenants to terminate their leases early without penalty or obligation to make remaining lease payments.
19. Support funding opportunities to reduce flood risk in the County, particularly in vulnerable and disadvantaged communities and the necessary strategic partners to assist the County in advancing equity and climate resiliency in stormwater infrastructure planning, design, and capital improvements.

7.15 Traffic Administration Services Program

1. Support legislation that maintains the Courts' authority to contract with traffic assistance programs to provide administrative support for the Courts' traffic caseload as described in the California Vehicle Code.
2. Oppose legislation that would limit the traffic assistance program authority and funding of non-profit agencies that monitor traffic violator schools on behalf of the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) or provide administrative services on behalf of the Superior Court.
3. Support proposals to develop, recommend and implement regulations for licensing, monitoring and code enforcement of traffic violator schools to maintain routine traffic violator school monitoring, fraud investigation and law enforcement services in the County.
4. Support proposals to develop, recommend, and implement regulations and routine monitoring of community service referral agencies to ensure that Court-ordered community service is administered and verified by designated referral agencies in accordance to standards agreeable by the Superior Court of California.

7.16 Law Enforcement Reforms

1. Support legislation that would expand eligibility for compensation under the Victims Compensation Program for injuries or death caused by use of force by a police officer and define "crime" to include the use of excessive force by a peace officer, regardless of whether the peace officer is charged.
2. Support legislation that would require municipalities to annually post on their website information relating to use of force settlements and judgments.

3. Support legislation that would authorize a person to bring a civil action against any responsible party who, motivated by the person's protected status, knowingly causes a peace officer to arrive at a location to contact the person with the intent to, among other things, infringe upon the person's rights.
4. Support legislation that would expand judicial review of a criminal judgment when material police misconduct information is discovered after a defendant is no longer in custody.
5. Support legislation that regulates the communication and canteen charges and contracts in jails to relieve undue financial stress for inmates and their families, while ensuring that counties receive backfill funding to mitigate any potential losses to inmate education programs and related costs.

8. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT/MANDATE RELIEF

1. Support legislation to set a date certain for the payment of deferred SB 90 (Chapter 1406, Statutes of 1972) reimbursements so that local governments will be able to borrow against them.
2. Seek SB 90 (Chapter 1406, Statutes of 1972) reimbursement for special education-mental health mandates from increased Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act funds received by the State or under Proposition 98 of 1988.
3. Support proposals to amend the California Government Code to eliminate the exclusion of SB 90 (Chapter 1406, Statutes of 1972) mandated reimbursements from any order by the State Water Resources Control Board or by any Regional Water Quality Control Board.
4. Support proposals to limit State administrative fees to the State's actual costs for mandated administration.
5. Support proposals to streamline or eliminate administrative mandates to focus limited resources on services.
6. Oppose measures that increase the County's Trial Court Funding maintenance of effort above the agreement reached in AB 233 (Chapter 850, Statutes of 1997) and subsequent actions providing Maintenance of Effort (MOE) relief.
7. Oppose any measure to earmark or otherwise encumber the discretionary revenues available to counties as a result of AB 233 (Chapter 850, Statutes of 1997) and subsequent actions providing MOE relief.
8. Support proposals to allow counties to apply for MOE relief when facility costs are included in the MOE base and remain an ongoing County responsibility.
9. Support legislation that would reform the State mandate reimbursement process for SB 90 claims to create a more efficient and timely process.

9. REVENUE AND TAXATION

1. Support full State funding of the schools' share of the cost of property tax administration.
2. Support legislation to provide the County with greater flexibility to increase the local sales tax rate beyond the 2.0 percent cap.
3. Support proposals to provide for a fee on alcohol consumption to be used to fund trauma and emergency care.
4. Support legislation to distribute the growth in sales tax revenue within counties on a per-capita or other basis that reflects the service responsibilities of counties.
5. Support proposals to mitigate County exposure to property tax refunds on State-assessed properties, including the establishment of a rebuttable presumption for values established within a defined range of fair market value.
6. Support legislation to clarify that, prospectively, interest on property tax refunds shall be computed from the date of payment of each installment.
7. Support legislation to clarify that property tax refund issues are not subject to class action lawsuits.
8. Oppose legislation that interferes with the County's ability to quickly resolve requests for changes in assessment or restricts the assessment appeals board's ability to deal with a sudden, large increase in the number of appeals.
9. Support legislation and regulation to uniformly apply tax and fees on utilities and similarly situated companies competing in California.
10. Support legislation to protect counties from refund claims based upon the application of Proposition 62 to taxes imposed in reliance upon applicable case law regarding the unconstitutionality of Proposition 62.
11. Support proposals to expand the type of debt that can be referred to the California Franchise Tax Board (FTB) intercept program to include debts owed to the County Probation Department and the Department of Health Services, and enable counties to access FTB tax return information for collection purposes.
12. Support legislation to require the State Board of Equalization to identify the fiscal impact of any new or revised rule, regulation, or instruction.
13. Oppose proposals that would preempt the ability of local governments to negotiate compensation for the use of rights-of-way by telecommunication companies.
14. Support legislation to clarify that the State Board of Equalization has sole responsibility for determining whether or not an organization may qualify for property tax welfare exemptions and that counties have sole responsibility for verifying that the uses of individual properties qualify for welfare exemptions.

15. Support legislation to clarify that, in addition to the right to inspect an assessee's records for purposes of assessment, an assessor has the right to copy those records.
16. Oppose legislation to require a trial de novo for property tax appeals.
17. Support legislation to require marina or storage facility operators to report vessels at their location to the county assessor for the purpose of assessment.
18. Support legislation to require manufactured home park operators to report the names, mailing addresses, park space number, and description of resident homes to county assessors.
19. Support proposals to improve tax compliance related to non-reporting of corporate ownership transfers, including those properties that typically transfer without a recorded deed.
20. Oppose legislation that would give cities and other public agencies that receive property tax revenues standing as third-party participants in assessment appeal proceedings relating to properties that are located in the agencies' jurisdiction, or legislation that would require the clerk of the board to send notice of hearing to third-parties.
21. Oppose measures that jeopardize local revenues resulting from the provision of voice (telephone), video (cable), and data (internet) services.
22. Support legislation to fund or restore State reimbursement to counties for property tax administration functions.
23. Support legislation to allow each person 55 years of age or older, regardless of marital status, the right to use the one-time lifetime exclusion for the transfer of a primary residence Proposition 13 base year assessed value to a replacement residence pursuant to the Revenue and Taxation Code.
24. Support legislation to promote statewide uniformity of procedures and guidelines by the State Controller for mandated functions performed by county auditor-controllers, such as property tax apportionments, management of administrative costs, accounting, and redevelopment activities.
25. Support legislation that enhances the administration of property taxes by using more efficient methods of administration, and support legislation that clarifies, streamlines, and outlines clear property tax policy for local governments.
26. Support proposals that provide a broad analysis of the role of tax expenditures in the State Budget and the implications for revenue losses; an evaluation of the current tax expenditures that are part of the tax code, including a thorough assessment of their respective relevance and appropriateness; and consideration of reduced corporate tax expenditures as a State Budget solution and as part of any discussions regarding revenue streams.
27. Support proposals that ensure tax increment generated by pension taxes be retained by the local jurisdiction that levied the pension tax.

28. Support legislation that would temporarily reduce or waive taxes and fees imposed on impacted businesses during transit-related construction activities.
29. Support proposals to: 1) reduce the amount of taxes and regulations imposed on the entertainment industry; and/or 2) mitigate the negative impact that high taxes and regulations have on the entertainment industry resulting in the loss of in-State film and television production, employment opportunities, and associated revenue, both directly and indirectly related to the loss of entertainment industry jobs.
30. Support proposals that would impose additional taxes on income derived from investment services or capital gains to fund investments for vital programs, such as education.
31. Oppose proposals that negatively affect revenue or the efficient administration of the property tax system.
32. Support proposals to expand eligibility, outreach campaigns, and increase funding for the California Earned Income Tax Credit.
33. Support proposals that would establish a non-return tax program to allow non-filing eligible families to receive the California Earned Income Tax Credit (Cal EITC).
34. Support proposals that expand the application of the California False Claims Act to case of tax fraud, enable the Attorney General of California to prosecute cases of tax fraud, and provide protections for whistleblowers who reveal cases of tax fraud to their employees.
35. Support proposals that expand the California EITC and Young-Child Tax Credit levels and eligibility.
36. Support proposals that adopt regulatory steps outlined under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Action plan to Advance Property Appraising and Valuation Equity, in order to address ethnic and racially systemic discriminatory and biased appraising practices.

10. SOCIAL SERVICES

10.1 Reforming the Safety Net and Promoting Self-Sufficiency

1. Support proposals for State and local governments to work together as partners to balance resources, eligibility and benefits, and forge new partnerships with business, nonprofit, and religious organizations to promote individual self-sufficiency.
2. Oppose proposals which would reduce available Federal matching funds for health and human service programs by capping State General Fund contributions.
3. Support proposals to allocate block grant funds based on actual costs and caseloads for various functions such as assistance grants and employment services.
4. Support a single integrated safety net which pools Federal, State, and county resources.

5. Support the maintenance of a statewide safety net because counties cannot afford to aid persons who are ineligible for Federal benefits under welfare reform.
6. Support the use of savings from welfare reform to finance safety net services, especially for vulnerable persons losing Federal eligibility who otherwise would be a county responsibility under Section 17000 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
7. Support proposals to increase funding for aging programs such as Linkages, Multipurpose Senior Services Programs, Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers, Senior Nutrition Programs and local Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs.
8. Support efforts to lift the cap on State CalFresh Employment and Training funding; require the State to fully fund the non-Federal match; and expand the Subsidized Employment Program in the CalFresh program.
9. Support efforts to maximize Federal funding for Medicaid, CalFresh, child welfare services, child support, and childcare.
10. Support options to simplify the administration of public assistance programs such as CalWORKs, Medi-Cal and CalFresh, including seeking any necessary Federal waivers.
11. Oppose efforts to make counties responsible for any penalties resulting from circumstances beyond their control including inadequate Federal and State administrative funding, as well as unclear Federal and State program instructions.
12. Support adequate funding for data collection, verification, reporting, and fraud detection while continuing investments in technology for the automation of public assistance programs, including CalSAWS, which is currently supporting the constituents of Los Angeles County and shall be expanded to eventually support the automation of all 58 counties.
13. Support funding to modify the county's automated systems in any legislation containing policy changes that impact those systems.
14. Oppose proposals to repeal State law that allows the first \$100 of child support payments to be passed on to CalWORKs participants for a family with one child in the household and up to \$200 for a family with two or more children in the household.
15. Support proposals which provide for the uniform implementation of electronic signatures in social services programs including CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, CalFresh, In-Home Supportive Services, and Child Welfare Services.
16. Support proposals to secure State funding for SSI advocacy.
17. Support legislation which would restrict the imposition of any transaction fees or surcharges for the use of Electronic Benefit Transfer cards within California.
18. Support proposals that reduce food insecurity among post-secondary educational students and older adults age 60 or older.

19. Oppose proposals that hinder the flexibility county welfare departments have in administering public assistance programs such as CalWORKs.
20. Support legislation that provides categorical eligibility for CalFresh benefits to families participating in the National School Lunch Program.
21. Support proposals that eliminate barriers for transition age youth applying for CalFresh, including but not limited to, any opportunities to truncate the CalFresh application for transition age youth.
22. Support proposals to continue CalFresh eligibility with hold harmless provisions for the SSI/SSP population and ongoing funding for county administration and benefits.
23. Oppose proposals that eliminate Modified Categorical Eligibility to the CalFresh program.
24. Support proposals that would provide a limited State-funded CalFresh grant to families receiving CalFresh Only benefits, only where a parent or relative caregiver is working a sufficient number of hours to meet the CalFresh/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Work Participation Rate.
25. Support proposals that would allocate new State fund for counties to conduct approved CalFresh outreach activities.
26. Support proposals that replace CalFresh, Supplemental Nutrition Benefit (SNB) California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) benefits lost or stolen.
27. Support proposals that will provide all CalFresh households a period of transitional CalFresh benefits once their income has exceeded their Income Reporting Threshold (IRT) limit before discontinuing the case.
28. Support proposals that change the State's CalFresh Expedited Service (ES) timeframe from three days to five days.
29. Support proposals that suspend the CalFresh Student Rule.
30. Support proposals that allow low-income undocumented immigrants to receive food-assistance benefits under the CFAP regardless of their immigration status.
31. Support proposals that provide emergency food assistance to millions of low-income Californians during a public health emergency regardless of immigration status.
32. Support proposals that reindex the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and public benefit levels, and recalibrate time constraints and eligibility requirements, particularly those affecting allowable assets.
33. Support proposals that exempt guaranteed-income payments, or similar cash-transfer program payments, from eligibility determinations for public benefits so that participants do not experience negative impacts to other public benefits they are receiving.

34. Support proposals that expand free Metro passes to all youth and seniors, plus recipients of CalWORKs, General Relief, and CalFresh.
35. Support proposals that provide more flexible federal and State funding to provide customers and/or their families services and supports in a manner that best meets their needs.
36. Support proposals that ensure free daily meals to children in childcare by enabling all Child and Adult Care Food Program childcare providers to qualify for the highest level of reimbursements for the meals they serve.
37. Support proposals to expand SNAP Restaurant Meals Program to include other prepared foods in non-restaurant settings (i.e., grocery stores).
38. Support proposals that provide funding and expand eligibility to food assistance programs to Californians of all ages, regardless of immigration status.
39. Support proposals that would allow electronic signatures on state or federal forms such as the SSP 14, that are needed from customers to access public benefits including, but not limited to the General Relief (GR) Program and the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI).
40. Support proposals that would increase drinking water affordability such as through CalFresh/EBT water supplements.
41. Support proposals that establish or expand guaranteed income programs, matched savings, baby bonds, or other measures to reduce income inequality and the racial wealth gap.
42. Support proposals that increase access to SNAP online ordering and delivery services.

10.2 CalWORKs

1. Support measures that promote economic self-sufficiency through partnerships with public, private, nonprofit, and religious organizations to hire CalWORKs participants and provide community service and work experience opportunities.
2. Support measures that enable counties to develop coordinated systems, which include, but are not limited to, Employment Development Department and Department of Social Services programs that assess CalWORKs participants, and identify and develop the employment, training, or community service and community work experience activities to which CalWORKs participants can be referred.
3. Support an equitable allocation of CalWORKs funds to counties based on relative need.
4. Support legislation to exempt the full value of one vehicle per household and/or a greater portion of a vehicle's value from the CalWORKs vehicle asset limit to ensure that clients have reliable transportation.

5. Support a statewide safety net to cover hardship cases, such as families with abused or neglected children, the disabled, families and emancipated foster youth at risk of homelessness, children, or parents who are not readily employable beyond the five-year limit on Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits, and adults who have complied with the work requirements but are unable to find employment through no fault of their own.
6. Support expansion of the State's financial commitment to local welfare-to-work programs that promote self-sufficiency among welfare recipients/applicants, non-custodial parents of children receiving CalWORKs benefits, and CalFresh applicants/recipients.
7. Support the use of TANF funds to provide employment-related and supportive services to non-custodial parents of children receiving TANF benefits, as permitted under Federal law.
8. Support efforts to fund and maintain an automated, non-biometric identity verification method for the CalWORKs and General Relief Programs.
9. Support legislation that excludes special military pay when determining CalWORKs eligibility for families of deployed members of the armed services.
10. Support proposals that reduce barriers and increase the participation of pregnant or parenting teens in the Cal-Learn Program.
11. Support proposals that simplify the CalWORKs Child Care Program to increase access to quality childcare and programs that promote child development and eliminate childcare as a barrier to welfare-to-work activities and employment.
12. Support proposals that would encourage all Cal-Learn youth to enroll and stay in school, actively participate in the Cal-Learn Program, and not seek employment as an alternative to school, but in conjunction with formal education that leads to at least a high school diploma.
13. Support proposals to exclude Cal-Learn youth from the base calculation of the Federal work participation rate.
14. Support proposals to provide a short-term extension of CalWORKs cash assistance and Medi-Cal benefits for families participating in the Family Reunification Program who were receiving CalWORKs assistance and Medi-Cal when the child(ren) in the families were removed due to abuse or neglect.
15. Support proposals that modify income eligibility limits and increase income deductions for the CalWORKs and the CalFresh programs to assist families and individuals impacted by a recession, a pandemic such as COVID-19, or a natural disaster, and to prevent the denial or loss of benefits by working families that are impacted by annual State and/or County minimum wage increases but continue to live at or below the federal poverty level.

16. Support proposals to restore and maintain funding for the Cal-Learn Program.
17. Oppose proposals to reinstate the CalWORKs Maximum Family Grant rule which prohibits a CalWORKs grant increase for any child born into a family receiving CalWORKs Program aid for ten continuous months prior to the birth of a child.
18. Support proposals to repeal the CalWORKs 100-hour rule for working families who are low-income and apply for the CalWORKs Program.
19. Support proposals that provide financial incentives to youth aided under the CalWORKs Program to achieve self-sufficiency upon the successful completion of a high school diploma.
20. Support proposals that maintain CalWORKs grants at or above 50 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) by requiring the State to re-adjust the Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) when the FPL is updated, with minimal or no cost impact to counties.
21. Support proposals to maintain or increase funding for the CalWORKs Home Visiting Program.
22. Support proposals that simplify the curing of CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work sanctions.

10.3 Workforce Development

1. Support the equitable pass-through of the maximum amount of Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds to workforce development boards that administer the program at the local level, without additional requirements on the use of funds.
2. Support the flexible use of the Governor's WIOA reserve dollars (15 percent discretionary funds) to provide workforce development services delivered by local workforce development boards.
3. Support proposals that provide additional resources to local workforce development programs including dedicated funding for summer and year-round employment programs, proposals that increase work experience funding for in-school and out of school youth to increase the viability of locally created career pathways based on high growth sectors, and to ensure local areas can train and pay workforce staff at appropriate levels.
4. Support proposals that provide an allocation of resources to regions and/or among workforce development boards need as measured by factors such as unemployment, poverty, and based on the number of individuals with barriers to employment.
5. Support proposals that reduce barriers to employment and provide opportunities for unemployed and underemployed individuals.
6. Support proposals to enhance workforce development for high-growth industries and promote the creation of new industry sectors.
7. Support proposals which would enhance the Homeless Hiring Tax Credit Credit or create similar measures, including business services, employer-based training, and hiring incentives, to incentivize employers to create access to good jobs and living wages priority populations.

8. Support legislative and budget proposals that create and fund local food assistance pilot programs, administered by community-based and non-profit organizations that serve as food first responders and mobilize around their local communities.
9. Support proposals to reduce employment barriers and expand career opportunities for justice-involved individuals, such as eliminating licensing barriers, including requirements to disclose and consider criminal history; and creating pathways into careers with family- sustaining wages.
10. Support proposals that promote collaboration between the workforce development system and educational institutions to strengthen employment pathways for youth and adults.
11. Support proposals that promote collaboration and coordination between the workforce development system and local continuums of care to better serve individuals experiencing homelessness.
12. Support proposals that enhance the additional worker and business safety and protection protocols needed due to COVID-19 or other health pandemics.
13. Support proposals that grow the early care and education industry, and improve access to childcare for individuals with the highest barriers to employment.
14. Support proposals that incentivize the development of high-road jobs and inclusive career pathways, including job entry and advancement support for local workers, and people from under-represented communities.
15. Support proposals that would assist with the transition of workers, particularly disadvantaged or displaced workers, from the fossil-fuel industry to other cleaner and growing industries.
16. Support proposals that spur job creation through the streamlined review of employment-generating land uses in strategic locations and the coordination of workforce development with long-range land use planning.
17. Support proposals that provide funding to support the renovation of a permanent home for the UCLA Labor Center and renames it the UCLA Reverend James Lawson Jr. Worker Justice Center.
18. Support investments in a Black health workforce.
19. Support legislation to enhance implementation of the California Fair Chance Hiring Act - AB 1008 (Chapter 789, Statutes of 2017) including proposals which:
 - prohibit employers from requiring self-disclosure of past criminal legal system involvement;
 - require employers to document and provide individualized assessments in writing;
 - increase the period of time within which applicants can submit evidence of rehabilitation or mitigating circumstances to contest a rescinded employment offer to ten (10) business days; and require employers to notify candidates of

rescinded job offers by email, as well as by mail, and provide a clear point of contact in the email that appeals can be sent to.

20. Support proposals that provide funding for state and local enforcement of the California Fair Chance Hiring Act, as well as employer and job seeker education, outreach, and marketing.

10.4 Citizenship, Legalization Assistance, and Immigration Matters

1. Support increased funding for citizenship assistance with priority for services given to immigrants who have lost Federal benefits and to immigrants with special needs, such as the elderly and disabled, with allocations to counties based upon their share of the total number of legal immigrants statewide.
2. Support proposals for services and State funding to provide immigrants and their families with due process protections, including legal representation for individuals facing removal proceedings.
3. Support proposals which would: 1) prohibit local governments from entering into new contracts or extending contracts with for-profit companies to detain immigrants in California; and 2) require all California facilities that detain immigrants to adhere to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement or similar humane treatment standards.
4. Support proposals that would allow the State to take any action necessary to protect California residents who are recipients of special Federal immigration and refugee protection programs, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS).
5. Support proposals to provide funding to public defender offices to investigate and advise on the potential consequences to immigration status resulting from noncitizens' encounters with the criminal justice system.
6. Support proposals to provide funding to public defender offices to coordinate with, train and assist legal aid service providers in seeking post-conviction relief from negative immigration status consequences stemming from the criminal convictions of their clients.
7. Sponsor or support proposals to strengthen consumer protection against fraud and harmful acts impacting immigrants and their families seeking immigration services.
8. Support proposals that increase access to services and resources for immigrants and their families, with emphasis on culture, language, and immigration competencies.
9. Support proposals for immigrants to obtain and maintain professional licenses, vocational training, higher education, and related resources to promote self-sufficiency and financial empowerment.
10. Support proposals that provide services and/or funding for unaccompanied minors (and their families) that seek asylum or other humanitarian immigration relief protection.
11. Support proposals that would provide and/or expand access to disaster assistance resources and programs for immigrants and their families.

12. Support or pursue legislative changes to either eliminate or grant local entities the authority to eliminate the citizenship requirement for Disaster Service Workers.
13. Support legislation which would prohibit jails, prisons, and other public agencies from transferring individuals in custody who are eligible for release to United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement jails.
14. Support proposals that do not bar immigrants in need of assistance from receiving benefits.
15. Support proposals that would expand access to Identification Cards for all residents of California.

10.5 Domestic Violence

1. Support proposals to increase funding for services to domestic violence victims and their children, including increased funding for outreach, screening, counseling, case management legal services, financial empowerment, and job training and placement for domestic violence victims and their families in unserved and underserved populations.
2. Support proposals to create a separate State allocation for domestic violence services to CalWORKs recipients.
3. Support efforts to promote domestic violence prevention and intervention through public awareness, education, counseling, increased data collection and research, and through comprehensive approaches to violence prevention.
4. Support legislation to foster coordination and collaboration between the various agencies providing domestic violence services.
5. Support legislation to provide additional funding for survivors of domestic violence, including emergency, transitional, and permanent housing solutions.
6. Oppose legislation that would: 1) require that domestic violence offenders receive evidence-based treatment to address their criminogenic needs based on their risk level; and 2) allow for an alternative length of domestic violence programming, outside of the legally required one year length, unless derived from a Statewide comprehensive study that provides recommendations that are accepted by the larger domestic violence prevention community.
7. Support efforts to fund prevention efforts and innovative approaches to end domestic and sexual violence.

10.6 In-Home Supportive Services

1. Support legislation to reestablish an 80 percent funding formula for State participation in In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) wages and benefits above the minimum wage or develop an alternative way to increase State participation in IHSS wages and benefits above the minimum wage.

2. Support proposals that increase the State's share of cost for wages in the IHSS Program, and alternative proposals that fairly distribute share of costs among State and local governments.
3. Support proposals to ensure the delivery of all eligible services, quality of care, the health and safety of IHSS consumers, and the integrity of the IHSS Program.
4. Support proposals to improve program integrity and prevent fraud in the IHSS Program.
5. Support proposals to increase IHSS funding with emphasis on respite care and the establishment of community-based, long-term care programs.
6. Support legislation to provide State funding for emergency IHSS providers to allow recipients to continue to receive IHSS services when the regular provider becomes ill or is otherwise unavailable to provide care.
7. Support proposals to develop a new funding allocation methodology for the In-Home Supportive Services Program which ensures equitable funding to sustain the program, mitigates cost shifts to counties, and stabilizes 1991 Realignment revenues for county programs.
8. Support proposals that advocate for in-Home Supportive Services providers.
9. Support proposals that fully restore the funding for IHSS Public Authority Consumer Advisory Committees and Governing Boards.
10. Support proposals that expedite and/or reduce barriers for family caregivers to obtain legal guardianship/conservatorship over a dependent adult family member and/or older adult family member receiving or applying for IHSS benefits.
11. Support proposals to provide State funding for Disaster Response Services for IHSS recipients when they are displaced or otherwise impacted by a disaster or severe weather-related emergency.
12. Support proposals that would include the confidentiality of Social Workers' personal information in the Department of Motor Vehicles' records for In-Home Supportive Services Social Workers.
13. Support proposals and funding for individuals who are in the process of applying or have the intent to apply for a U-Visa and/or Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) petition with the United States Citizen and Immigrant Services (USCIS) to access critical support and benefits.

10.7 Senior and Adult Services

1. Support proposals to increase funding for the Adult Protective Services (APS) Program to enable counties to ensure the safety and protection of abused and neglected elders and dependent adults, including proposals that provide funding for transportation services.

2. Support measures to ensure that counties have priority for adult protective services funding over agencies which do not have State-mandated responsibilities.
3. Support proposals that promote the use of less costly home and community-based care alternatives to the institutionalization of disabled persons, including by allowing funding to follow persons to home and community-based care services, such as IHSS.
4. Support legislation or budgetary actions to provide a tax credit to individuals who provide in-home care for elderly parents or other family members.
5. Support proposals to reestablish and to fully fund the Special Circumstances Program to provide assistance to eligible, low-income aged, blind and disabled persons.
6. Support proposals to fund for construction, renovation and/or acquisition of centers serving senior citizens.
7. Support proposals to provide State funding for elder abuse forensic examination programs.
8. Support proposals that would allow the pass-through of Federal funds appropriated for programs authorized under the Older Americans Act to the California Department of Aging and subsequently to the area agencies on aging in the absence of an enacted State budget.
9. Support proposals and funding that promote the coordination of services such as Older Americans Act Programs, In-Home Supportive Services, Caregiver Resource Centers, Community-Based Adult Services, Multipurpose Social Services Program and Adult Protective Services into an integrated long-term care system.
10. Support proposals to facilitate the State's implementation of its Olmstead Plan, which prohibits the unnecessary institutionalization of individuals with disabilities, through the inclusion of appropriate access to community-based services and placement options.
11. Support proposals that would increase the types of professions required to report suspected cases of elder abuse.
12. Support proposals which require the licensing, oversight and regulation of conservators, establish a Probate Ombudsman Program, and provide sufficient resources to conduct investigations of conservators through the Probate Court and the Public Guardian Program.
13. Support proposals that would allow the County to recover costs associated with severe weather-related emergency services to Adult Protective Services clients.
14. Support proposals that provide resources to elderly or dependent adults who are victims of financial abuse, and to support the education, prevention and investigation of financial abuse and exploitation of this population.
15. Support proposals that fund the biennial updating of the Elder Economic Security Standard Index.

16. Support legislation that would give the California Department of Developmental Services and regional centers the authority to adjust pay rates for providers who operate in regions where the local minimum wage rate is higher than the State minimum wage.
17. Support proposals such as the California Wandering Prevention Task Force, that develop strategies and interventions to prevent and reduce the risks and better protect the safety and well-being of individuals with cognitive impairments, including the reunification of families with loved ones who have tendencies to wander, such as individuals with Alzheimer's, dementia, and autism.
18. Support proposals to enhance the confidentiality of investigators' and social workers' personal information in the Department of Motor Vehicles' records including, but not limited to, Adult Protective Services investigators and social workers.
19. Support proposals that improve the quality of life, such as livability needs, and delivery of services for older adults and people with disabilities.
20. Support proposals that provide funding for arts-based programs and services for older adults.
21. Support legislation, proposals, and funding to expand fall/injury prevention efforts and implement the National Falls-Free Initiative at the local level.
22. Support legislation, proposals, and funding to enhance the financial well-being of family caregivers.
23. Support proposals that expand eligibility for congregate meal programs to dependent adults, ages 18-60, with disabilities.

10.8 Community Services Block Grant Funding

1. Support proposals to equitably allocate Federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding based on data derived from the most recently completed Census, or a need-based formula, and oppose the use of CSBG grant funds to supplant existing funding of local programs.

10.9 Military and Veterans Affairs

1. Support proposals to increase efforts to reduce homelessness for veterans and their families, increase affordable housing, mental health services, including treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, SUD treatment, training, placement and employment opportunities, and provide other essential assistance to those who have served in our armed forces.
2. Support legislation to allow all recently honorably discharged, released or retired members of the Armed Services to qualify for in-State tuition rates at California Community Colleges, the California State University, or the University of California.

3. Support legislation which enhances contracting opportunities for Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises and Social Enterprises by providing the ability for these businesses to receive bid preferences on low-bid construction contracts.
4. Support legislation which increases the amount of the preference allowed on low bid construction contracts in an amount consistent with the County's Small Business, Disabled Veteran Owned Business, and Social Enterprise Utilization Plan.

10.10 Service Delivery

1. Oppose efforts to privatize and/or centralize eligibility processing for Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, and/or CalFresh at the State level.

10.11 Homelessness

1. Support proposals which would: 1) increase funding for homeless assistance programs, including supportive housing, supportive services, employment services, and emergency services; 2) increase local flexibility over the use of homeless assistance funds; 3) simplify and reduce administrative requirements; 4) enhance data and client-level information sharing between local agencies that provide services to homeless individuals and families; and 5) distribute funds equitably based on relative need.
2. Support proposals which provide funding to meet the housing and related supportive service needs of special populations, including homeless, veterans, elderly, Native Americans, disabled, justice-involved individuals and those with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder.
3. Support State efforts to develop policies and identify resources, benefits, and services to prevent and work towards ending homelessness in California.
4. Support proposals to improve the discharge policies and procedures of State prisons, hospitals and any other agencies with residential services, to ensure that persons are linked to housing resources at the time of release.
5. Support proposals to increase services and benefits for CalWORKs homeless families and services, and benefits to prevent homelessness among families receiving CalWORKs.
6. Support proposals to provide resources to create, rehabilitate, or subsidize housing for low and extremely low-income populations who are vulnerable to homelessness.
7. Support proposals that would authorize the use or sale of surplus or otherwise unneeded State property local governments or joint powers authorities to provide housing for persons or families experiencing homelessness.
8. Support proposals that would provide funding for rental assistance and legal aid to assist individuals and families who are at risk of becoming homeless.
9. Support proposals to exempt interim housing projects that serve homeless families and individuals, such as conversions of motels into supportive or transitional housing, newly constructed supportive housing projects and newly constructed emergency shelters, from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

10. Support proposals that would remove zoning restrictions and other barriers to by-right use of publicly owned and controlled property for shelters and supportive or affordable housing.
11. Support proposals to expand housing opportunities for people who are homeless or who are at-risk of becoming homeless, including eviction defense services, temporary rental assistance, and temporary mortgage forbearance.
12. Support proposals that would require a minimum allocation of State homelessness funding to be spent on services that meet the specific needs of unaccompanied women experiencing homelessness.
13. Oppose proposals that establish a separate joint powers authority with the County, City of Los Angeles or any other city within the County for purposes of funding housing to assist low-income households, exercise land use authority, oversee administration of County social services, acquire land through eminent domain and receive new state and federal funding.
14. Oppose legislation that seeks to weaken or remove the Housing First model for homeless services.
15. Support proposals that provide ongoing funding for housing and services for those experiencing homelessness with options for individuals with higher levels of care needs, such as Adult Residential Facilities (ARFs) and Residential Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs).
16. Support proposals that increase funding to address Native American homelessness and increase Native American housing.
17. Support legislation that identifies population-specific funding for groups disproportionately impacted by homelessness.

11. TRANSPORTATION

1. Support legislation to increase the fines for rail transit rights-of-way violations to make them comparable to fines for running a red-light or illegally driving in a High Occupancy Vehicle Lane.
2. Support funding for the 1989 Retrofit Sound Wall and the post-1989 Sound Wall lists.
3. Support proposals that provide support, funding or flexibility for the expansion and maintenance of pedestrian and bicycle-oriented infrastructure such as crosswalks, pedestrian lighting, bicycle facilities, parklets and other pedestrian amenities, and traffic controls that promote safe and active transportation, consistent with traffic safety initiatives such as Vision Zero.
4. Support proposals for dedicated funding for transportation required by the Welfare-to-Work Program.
5. Support an increase in grade separation funds if regional transit programs are not harmed and the funding received by the Department of Public Works from gas tax revenues is not reduced and the project funding received from the State Transportation Improvement Program is not significantly reduced.

6. Support proposals to direct allocation of funds to local governments for the preservation of local streets and roads, without reducing other transportation funds or impacting other agencies.
7. Support legislation that further restricts the borrowing of revenues received by the County from the excise tax on gasoline and diesel.
8. Support proposals to redirect Federal minimum guarantee funds from the State Transportation Improvement Program to the Regional Surface Transportation Program.
9. Support legislation to reduce the vote requirement for enacting a county-wide sales or gas tax transportation measure.
10. Oppose legislation to relinquish State highways to local agencies unless the State first restores them to good repair, a determination is made by the affected local agency that the roadway has general need for traffic circulation, and the local agency and the State have agreed upon the terms and conditions of the relinquishment.
11. Oppose legislation that would reduce the ability of local and regional transportation agencies to prioritize transportation projects with the State.
12. Support legislation allowing the use of automated enforcement systems to enforce speed limits on unincorporated Los Angeles County roadways.
13. Support rail safety legislation that is designed to prevent accidents and increase California's control over rail safety.
14. Oppose legislation and/or proposals that allow large combination vehicles, such as triple trailer trucks to operate in California or attempts to increase the size or weight of combination vehicles.
15. Support the inclusion of funding for grade separations and local road improvement projects in any proposed statewide infrastructure bond measure.
16. Support a statewide infrastructure repair and expansion program that includes funding for transit priorities in Los Angeles County and throughout California.
17. Support legislation to fund the inland port in the Antelope Valley.
18. Support legislation that allows all direct and indirect environmental, engineering, accounting, legal and reasonable administrative costs to be recovered from Bridge and Thoroughfare Districts in unincorporated Los Angeles County, in addition to actual construction costs.
19. Oppose legislation that erodes the County Road Commissioner's current authority to carry out work.
20. Support proposals that guarantee an equal amount of gas excise tax revenues from the State as received by the County under Proposition 42 of 2002.
21. Support proposals to identify and provide sufficient and stable funding sources for local street and road maintenance, preservation, and rehabilitation.

22. Support efforts to replace the State's Congestion Management Program with current performance-based planning measures that better align its goals and objectives with local land use and regional transportation goals and objectives.
23. Oppose legislation which would expand or restructure the membership of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors.
24. Oppose proposals which would alter the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority's user fee collection structure or propose alternative fee structures.
25. Support legislation and transportation funding proposals, including new fees and taxes, that would: 1) provide permanent and sustainable funding to maintain and repair the State's transportation infrastructure, and local streets and roads to ensure the safe, clean, and efficient mobility of the traveling public and the economic vitality of California; 2) ensure an equitable funding formula between the State and local governments; and 3) adhere to the following priorities:
 - a. Makes a significant new investment in transportation infrastructure that would remain in place for at least 10 years or until an alternative method of funding our transportation system is agreed upon;
 - b. Supports the transition to a zero-emission transportation system, especially in goods movement;
 - c. Focuses on maintenance and transforming the current system of local streets and highways to attain a transportation network that is safe for all users, including pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders;
 - d. Recognizes the critical importance of public transit systems and goods movement infrastructure to environmental sustainability and economic well-being;
 - e. Provides for a roadway maintenance funding formula that equitably distributes revenue between the State and local governments and, consistent with current and historical practices, provides new revenues to local governments via direct subventions for investment in local streets and roads;
 - f. Raises revenues through a package that utilizes multiple funding sources, including fuel taxes, license fees and registration fees; and
 - g. Provides strong accountability requirements to protect the taxpayers' investment.
26. Support legislation aimed at protecting or increasing funding for the Los Angeles County public transit system (including bikeway and other active transportation networks) and projects.
27. Oppose proposals for routes, segments or alignments of the California High-Speed Rail project which would cross the Big Tujunga Wash at or above grade or which would threaten severe impacts to home, quality of life, and sensitive environmental areas.

28. Support proposals that provide funding, support or flexibility to local governments to implement transit first policies and traffic safety programs, policies and initiatives, such as Vision Zero, including flexibility establishing enforceable speed limits.
29. Support proposals that would assist the County and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority in their joint efforts to site a rail manufacturing and testing facility within the County's geographic boundaries.
30. Support proposals that would promote active transportation that are inclusive of and accessible to all levels of physical ability, including promoting active transportation networks between jurisdictions.
31. Support proposals that would provide funding or other incentives to support the provision of low and no-cost transit passes for students, seniors, disabled persons, and low-income populations.
32. Support proposals that would provide funding or other assistance for the installation of bus-only lanes and signal prioritization for transit buses, including for the installation of full bus rapid transit infrastructure along priority corridors.
33. Support proposals that would equitably integrate emerging transportation technologies into existing transportation networks safely and in ways that reduce greenhouse gas emissions due to transportation.
34. Support proposals that allow the County to adopt a Neighborhood Electric Vehicle (NEV) Transportation Plan to accommodate the operation of NEVs within the County's public right of way.
35. Support proposals that require transit providers to develop anti-harassment plans, to be considered and implemented as part of the agencies' planning, designing, and operating their systems.
36. Support State funding requests for congestion relief and climate resiliency projects along The Old Road in the Santa Clarita Valley.
37. Support proposals that would limit searches associated with traffic or pedestrian infractions (including, but not limited to, technical violations, equipment violations, proper lighting and broken taillights) for which there is not a strong causal connection to a collision.

12. UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

12.1 Energy

1. Support proposals to expand renewable electric generation and supply in California to ensure energy resiliency.
2. Support proposals to provide an exemption to allow public agencies to extend the use of emergency generators when electrical blackouts are imminent.
3. Support proposals to increase funding for programs administered or managed by public agencies for public and private sectors which encourage and/or implement

reduced energy consumption, reduced peak energy usage, on-demand energy usage reduction (demand response), increased renewable energy usage (solar photovoltaic, solar water heating), energy storage, energy data management systems, water efficiency/conservation, and energy financing programs.

4. Support proposals which assist local governments with renegotiating and developing new utility franchise agreements by providing: 1) open, transparent provisions of information about utility systems in local jurisdiction boundaries; 2) fair and economical pricing; timely and open negotiations; 3) favored nations clauses; 4) limits on length of franchise agreement terms; 5) sharing of information about other franchise deals; and 6) mechanisms for undoing existing in perpetuity agreements.
5. Support legislation that would provide customers, such as the County, with opportunities to select retail power providers and programs (including direct access and community choice aggregation) that offer renewable power, lower retail energy rates, and customer end-user programs, and oppose legislation that restricts or limits, or diminishes these customer choice options.
6. Support legislation that allows local government to purchase and/or generate electricity and natural gas for local government facilities delivered through utility transmission and distribution systems (lines/wire for electricity, pipelines for natural gas).
7. Support proposals to provide funding to encourage local governments to install traffic signals with an independent power source provided the power source is equivalent or cleaner than the current supply.
8. Support proposals to assist low-income medical device dependent and elderly households with energy assistance, such as payment subsidies, conservation education, weatherization, and energy efficiency improvements.
9. Support proposals that would increase access to funding under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program in Los Angeles County.
10. Support legislation to assist and encourage local businesses and homeowners to implement green energy programs (such as wind turbines, solar panels, and energy-efficient appliances) to reduce demand on local and regional power grids, as long as the legislation includes provisions which protect the County's ability to analyze environmental impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act to exercise discretion in regulating land uses in County unincorporated areas.
11. Support legislation requiring the California Public Utilities Commission to require Investor Owned Utilities to establish separate Tariff Rates for newer high and ultra-high efficient traffic and street fixtures such as Light-Emitting Diode signal lights and street lighting fixtures.
12. Support proposals to require Investor Owned and Municipal Utilities (IOMUs) to provide local governments and State agencies with disaggregated energy consumption data to support the development and/or update of greenhouse gas emissions inventories and climate action plans.
13. Support proposals which provide funding for local government efforts to develop, update, and implement climate action plans.

14. Support proposals and funding which assist local governments in the development and implementation of Climate Action Plans and Sustainability Plans that aim to reduce energy and water consumption, mobile source emissions, and other greenhouse gas emissions targeted under AB 32 (Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006) and SB 32 (Chapter 248, Statutes of 2016).
15. Support legislation to provide renewable energy status, diversion credits, and other incentives for energy production at existing facilities in the County that generate energy from waste.
16. Support legislation which would implement standards and benchmarks to: 1) raise California's renewable energy portfolio standards; 2) reduce petroleum use; and 3) increase energy efficiency in buildings.
17. Support legislation that would enhance consumer protections available to property owners who finance eligible property improvements through voluntary property-tax assessment financing programs.
18. Support legislation that facilitates and/or funds local governments new or increased code or ordinance compliance, enforcement, or development requirements that result from the State's clean energy policies and County decarbonization goals.
19. Oppose legislation which would mandate that community choice aggregation integrated resource plans be approved by the California Public Utilities Commission.
20. Support legislation that fosters community choice energy program development and operations; and oppose legislation that reduces local control or that adds burdensome regulations, unreasonable costs, or creates delays to community choice energy programs and their customers.
21. Support proposals that would prohibit the State Water Resources Control Board from extending the operating permits of coastal power plants that use once-through cooling systems.
22. Support proposals that require additional reviews of public safety power shutoff programs (PSPS), including the need for proper notification and community to impacted communities, and which mandate additional mitigation measures as a requirement for continuation of a PSPS program including, but not limited to, the deployment of battery back-up systems, generator programs, additional community resource centers and other strategies to ensure the health and safety of County residents.
23. Support proposals that require electric investor-owned utilities (IOUs) to offer an allocation of certain electrical resources to other lead-serving entities (LSEs), specifically, community choice aggregators (CCAs) and electric service providers (ESPs) that serve departing lead customers who bear cost responsibility for those resources, including product attributes to comply with resource adequacy, Renewable Portfolio Standard program, and others.

24. Support proposals that require at least 40 percent of federal climate, clean energy and other infrastructure funds be allocated to benefit disadvantaged communities and an additional 10 percent of funds be allocated to benefit low-income communities and households.
25. Support proposals to expand renewable and emissions-free electric generation and supply in California.
26. Oppose proposals that restrict or inhibit local government's latitude to advance reach Codes.

12.2 Telecommunications and Video Services

1. Support proposals to establish technology-specific area codes in order to reduce the proliferation of area codes for regular telephone customers.
2. Support proposals that improve the management of numbering resources applicable to telecommunications carriers, and avoid the premature exhaustion or split of an area code.
3. Support measures that promote universal access to telecommunication services including voice, video, data, and the Internet.
4. Oppose measures that restrict local control over the public rights-of-way.
5. Oppose measures restricting local authority over emergency alert communications systems.
6. Support measures that provide local governments with commercially equivalent, no-cost access to media to distribute information by such methods as Public, Educational, and Government access channels.
7. Support proposals that evaluate the health and safety impact of wireless communications emissions.
8. Support proposals that promote access for disabled persons to telecommunications services, including voice, video, data, and the Internet.
9. Support proposals that would enable local governments to negotiate compensation and other public benefits for those that use the rights-of-way, such as telecommunications and video service providers.
10. Support proposals that protect net neutrality.
11. Oppose proposals which would preempt, limit or remove local authority over the governance of telecommunications infrastructure deployment and siting, including but not limited to, land use planning discretion, public review, and the ability to receive appropriate compensation for access to and use of public rights-of-way.
12. Support proposals that would expand access to reliable, affordable, broadband nationwide, particularly for underserved communities, and that would bridge the digital divide by: 1) developing best practices for streamlining the permitting of high-

speed broadband internet infrastructure; 2) exploring public-private partnerships to incentivize private investment in broadband infrastructure in historically underserved and rural communities; 3) creating workforce development pipeline programs that identify career opportunities created by supporting the expansion of broadband, fiber, and related telecommunications infrastructure industries; and 4) utilizing innovative, short-term, and long-term strategies to provide free or low-cost high-speed internet and related devices to disadvantaged communities.

12.3 Construction Contracts

1. Support legislation that: 1) authorizes a board of supervisors to delegate the approval of change orders to a county officer for construction contracts, including buildings, roads, bridges, flood control, waterworks projects, and related professional services; 2) increase the limit on construction contract change orders that a board of supervisors may delegate to a county officer; and 3) modifies the maximum contract change order amount delegated to a county officer based on the Consumer Price Index.
2. Support legislation that authorizes counties to use the design-build contract method for projects to construct buildings and directly related improvements, and support or sponsor legislation that would delete the existing sunset date on design-build authority granted to counties and that would eliminate the current project cost threshold required for the use of the design-build method.
3. Support legislation to preserve and improve the County's ability to solicit and manage construction contracts and or job order contracts.
4. Support legislation that would enable counties to use qualitative and/or quality criteria in awarding job order contracts, including "Best Value Selection," which uses non-price factors such as quality, performance history and expertise for contractor selection.
5. Support legislation that would increase the current force account limit for alteration or repair of county-owned buildings, and would include an annual Consumer Price Index adjustment.

12.4 Underground Utilities

1. Support legislation that strengthens the enforcement of laws regulating excavations in the public right of way.
2. Support legislation to grant counties the right to object to and/or challenge public utilities projects that encroach on streets within their jurisdiction.
3. Support proposals that provide funding to local governments to convert overhead electrical lines to underground facilities or to expand criteria for qualification to include fire safety, reliability projects, or projects in disadvantaged communities.

12.5 Oil and Gas Facilities

1. Support proposals which would: 1) provide a comprehensive statutory framework for regulation of hydraulic fracturing (or "fracking") and other well stimulation treatments in California; 2) provide statutory and regulatory protection from potential hazards to the

environment, groundwater quality, air quality, seismic safety, and public health that may result from these processes; 3) require the disclosure of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing and other well stimulation treatments and 4) provide funding for supportive services, workforce development and other assistance that helps displaced fossil fuel workers' transition to the green economy or other industries that offer career pathways with family-sustaining wages.

2. Support legislation which would require petroleum refineries to post their risk management plans on their websites and provide an alarm system and automatic notifications to residents within a five-mile radius in case of emergencies.
3. Support legislation which would require the owner or operator of a petroleum refinery to install fence-line and community air monitoring systems.
4. Support legislation which would require the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) to increase the number of inspectors for its refinery inspector program.
5. Support legislation which would create an Interagency Task Force on Refinery Safety to examine ways to improve public and worker safety through enhanced oversight of refineries, and strengthen emergency preparedness in anticipation of any future refinery incident.
6. Support proposals which would ban the use of modified hydrofluoric acid (MHF) or require refineries in California to convert from MHF to safer alternatives.
7. Support legislation, regulations or orders which restrict or prohibit natural gas injection into a gas storage facility which has experienced a leak until the State has completed a study to determine the feasibility of closing or reducing the capacity of the facility, completed a root cause analysis of what caused the leak, and issued a public report on the findings and the State's final determination.
8. Support proposals to expedite the closure of natural gas facilities, accelerate permanent closure plans, and limit storage capacity of natural gas facilities.
9. Support legislation that establishes statewide minimum setback distances for oil and gas operations, including drilling, from sensitive land uses provided that these requirements do not preempt local authority from establishing more productive measures.
10. Support proposals to assess the condition, regulatory compliance, and potential safety risk of existing and orphaned or abandoned oil and gas facilities, and support proposals that would facilitate the clean-up or closure of abandoned or orphaned wells.
11. Support legislation that strengthens the State's oversight and regulations pertaining to gas storage facilities, oil refineries, and gas/oil extraction.
12. Support legislation that would phase out oil extraction and proposals that would support funding for site remediation/reuse for local governments that have already committed to the phase out of extraction.
13. Support proposals to fund and support health and safety protections, including continuous air monitoring programs near oil and gas operations.

13. CANNABIS

1. Support proposals that provide State funding to local governments for use in connection with and/or to implement local and regional regulatory activity, programs and services related to cannabis.
2. Support proposals that ensure cannabis and its products are appropriately packaged and labeled to prevent accidental ingestion, particularly by minors.
3. Support proposals that reduce cannabis advertising and marketing that directly or indirectly encourages consumption of cannabis by people under the age of 21 years, including but not limited to proposals that prohibit cannabis advertising in broadcast, cable, radio, print, and digital communications, and advertising or sponsorship at events such as concerts, fairs, festivals, and sporting events, where less than 85 percent of the audience is reasonably expected to be 21 years of age or older.
4. Support proposals that standardize cannabis dosing or set potency limits.
5. Support proposals that authorize local governments to address safety issues regarding cannabis and its products, including providing tools and funding to initiate and execute product recalls at the local level.
6. Support proposals to protect the health and safety, as well as the security, of consumers and workers in the cannabis industry, including, but not limited to, preventing pesticides and other chemicals from being used in a manner that is inconsistent with State public health guidelines or otherwise harmful to the public's health or safety.
7. Support proposals that establish an effective and scientifically-based standard to determine when a person who has consumed cannabis is too impaired to operate a vehicle, heavy machinery, or perform any other activity that puts public health or safety at risk.
8. Support proposals that provide licensed cannabis businesses access to financial services and products, such as bank accounts, payroll systems, and credit and debit cards systems that are standard in other retail industries in order to address problems associated with the disproportionately high use of cash in cannabis businesses.
9. Support legislation that would expedite the identification, review and processing of specified cannabis-related convictions that may be eligible to be reduced or expunged under Proposition 64 of 2016.
10. Support proposals which would require manufacturers of all edible cannabis products sold in the State to comply with packaging and labeling standards established and required by the State's Bureau of Cannabis Control.
11. Support proposals that provide maximum legal relief to qualified individuals with cannabis convictions under Proposition 64 criminal justice provisions, including by providing State funding for the courts, local public defenders and prosecutors to engage in proactive resentencing and reclassification measures.
12. Support proposals that discourage the proliferation of unlicensed cannabis businesses including those that provide State funding for local enforcement, stricter civil penalties

for violators, and that require State licensing authorities to promptly notify local authorities whenever an enforcement-related action or investigation is initiated at a licensed or unlicensed cannabis business.

13. Support proposals that fund and/or enhance cannabis consumer protection and education.
14. Support proposals that would ensure equitable implementation of State cannabis regulations, equitable cannabis enforcement statewide, and distribution of Proposition 64 funding to protect and support communities who have historically been negatively or disproportionately affected by cannabis criminalization.
15. Support proposals that address misleading cannabis advertising and unsubstantiated health benefit claims from cannabis companies, including but not limited to positive mental health impacts.
16. Support or pursue legislation that would: 1) provide standing to County Counsel to civilly prosecute and enjoin water theft; 2) provide additional enforcement authority for water theft and/or misuse in declared drought emergencies; 3) authorize County Counsel to civilly prosecute and enjoin water pollution from cannabis cultivation; 4) address potential loopholes or exploitation by illegal cannabis growers and pursue increasing local government controls over illegal cannabis and unregistered hemp crops; and/or 5) authorize an alternative means of service of process for commercial cannabis businesses when their business entity status is form unknown.
17. Support proposals that support the establishment of a safer cannabis market, including promoting access to banking and financial resources, safer cannabis products and businesses, and increased resources for local public health, equity and consumer protection programs.

14. RACIAL EQUITY AND JUSTICE

1. Support proposals that would address, correct and/or remedy past public policy which produced or sustained racial inequity.
2. Support proposals that affirmatively advance and/or provide resources to promote racial equity.
3. Support proposals to broaden the scope of authority of the state's Racial Equity Commission to ensure state agencies, departments, and offices develop and implement racial equity action plans and align their policies, procedures, budgets, and services with the Commission's Racial Equity Framework, and develop monitoring and accountability mechanisms to track progress.
4. Support proposals that would establish a State Office of Racial Equity.
5. Support proposals to conduct and/or fund Racial Impact Assessments.
6. Support proposals to establish The California African American Freedmen Affairs Agency.
7. Support proposals to address the wrongful taking of property owned by BIPOC Residents.

County of Los Angeles

A Unified Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education

2020
-
2025





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January 2020

Dear Colleagues,

The early care and education system in Los Angeles County supports the optimal development of children aged birth to five years old, as well as children up to age 13 in before and after school programs. These services are critical to our economy, supporting parents and caregivers while they work, and preparing children for kindergarten entry with the skills and confidence they need to succeed in school and life.

Under the leadership of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH), the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) convened the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development (Roundtable) and the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) to lead a collaborative planning process involving nearly 100 stakeholders. The result of this effort is the County's first unified plan for early care and education, which will guide the work of the OAECE, the Roundtable, and the Planning Committee under one vision, one mission, and with a single unified voice.

We are excited to present the 2020-2025 County of Los Angeles Unified Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education. The plan outlines four strategic priorities:

- **Access** - Increase access to early care and education services for children birth to five years of age and out of school care for children up to age thirteen.
- **Quality** - Strengthen the quality of early care and education services, especially for children and families most in need.
- **Workforce** - Improve the compensation and qualifications of the early care and education workforce.
- **Families and Communities** - Increase engagement of parents, caregivers and communities on early care and education issues.

Making progress on these strategic priorities will require continued collaboration among all aspects of the early care and education system as well as new partnerships with non-traditional partners and allies. By joining forces under this unified plan, we can achieve the vision that children are healthy, thriving and have equitable opportunities to achieve optimal development and succeed in life.



Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director
Los Angeles County Department
to Public Health



Jackie Majors, Chair
Policy Roundtable for Child Care
and Development



Debra Colman, Director
Office for the Advancement
of Early Care and Education



Julie Taren, Chair
Child Care Planning Committee

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education is deeply grateful to the partners and community members who contributed their time, energy and expertise to the development of this plan. Key among these were members of the Child Care Planning Committee and the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development who came together as the Strategic Planning Workgroup¹ to review and synthesize input from multiple sources as the basis for this plan. This work laid the foundation for unified leadership to improve early care and education for children across Los Angeles County.

Child Care Planning Committee – FY 2018-20

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Christina Acosta | Andrea Joseph | Ernesto Saldaña |
| Norma Amezcua | Aolelani Lutu | Ancelma Sanchez |
| Ranae Amezcua | Ritu Mahajan, J.D. | Mariana Sanchez |
| Alejandra Berrio | Valerie Marquez | Kathy Schreiner* |
| Mallika Bhandarkar | Cyndi McAuley | JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia |
| Tonya Burns | Melissa Noriega | Michael Shannon |
| Jessica Chang | Kelly O'Connell* | Sarah Soriano |
| Lindsey Evans | Daniel Orosco | Andrea Sulsona |
| Teresa Figueras | Laurel Parker | Julie Taren, Vice Chair* |
| Mona Franco | Dianne Philibosian, Ph.D. * | Veronica Torres |
| Angela Gray | Daniel Polanco | Jenny Trickey |
| La Tanga Hardy | Nellie Ríos-Parra, Chair* | Lauren Trosclair Duncan |
| Tara Henriquez | Ricardo Rivera | Maria Vera |
| Alexandra Himmel* | Joyce Robinson* | Delia Vicente |
| Antoinette Isaacs | Reiko Sakuma | |

Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development – FY 2018-19

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Jeannette Aguirre | Richard Cohen, Ph.D.* | Dean Tagawa, Ph.D. |
| Maria Calix | Kalene Gilbert | Boris E. Villacorta |
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| Dawn A. Kurtz, Ph.D. | Ofelia Medina* | Nellie Ríos-Parra* |
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| Jackie Majors, Vice Chair* | Jennifer Hottenroth, Ph.D. | |
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Special thanks to the generous support of the First 5 LA and The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation.

¹ Strategic Planning Workgroup members are denoted by *.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Early care and education can be a cornerstone for a child's healthy development and future well-being. So they can thrive, all children deserve access to high-quality early learning environments to support their growth and development. Quality early care and education programs offer nurturing and stimulating environments that contribute to a child's optimal physical, social-emotional, linguistic, and cognitive development. For working families, child care is also an essential resource that enables parents and caregivers to remain in the workforce. To ensure that all children have access to high-quality early care and education, the Los Angeles County Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE), under the leadership of the Department of Public Health (DPH) and in partnership with the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development (Roundtable) and the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee), presents the County of Los Angeles Unified Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education – 2020-2025 (the Plan).

A Unified Approach

Serving approximately 650,000 Los Angeles children under age 5, the early care and education system is a complex and disconnected matrix of services. Recently, support for our youngest children has risen as a priority issue with elevated political attention and increased public investment. This critical moment in time provides an opportunity to shift how early care and education is approached in Los Angeles County. The Plan was developed through

an innovative collaborative process involving almost 100 stakeholders including OAECE staff, Roundtable members, and Planning Committee members. The Plan documents shifts in the early care and education landscape, the history of each of three entities that developed the Plan, and the twelve-month process that brought unique perspectives together under a common vision. The Plan also uplifts OAECE as the Los Angeles County early care and education office and the transformative role it can serve as an educator, convener, data manager, strategist and advocate.

Strategic Priorities

As a north star for Los Angeles County early care and education efforts, the Plan offers a guiding framework for the OAECE, Roundtable, Planning Committee, and other stakeholders with four focus strategic areas: 1) access to early care and education, 2) early care and education quality, 3) early care and education workforce supports, and 4) family and community engagement in early care and education issues.

Implementation Planning

The four strategic priorities define a direction for early care and education systems and the Plan provides a starting place for collaborative work. A full implementation framework identifying specific activities in each of the four strategic areas, and the assumptions, tasks, roles, timeline, and resources required to achieve them will be completed by June 2020.



INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Early care and education programs support the care and development of children birth to five years old, as well as out of school care for children to age 12. Program providers may include school districts, early care and education centers, licensed family child care homes, and family, friends, and neighbors who provide care. Across Los Angeles County, many families struggle to find services for their children that are high-quality and affordable. The average annual cost of child care is \$10,303 per preschooler in center-based care and \$8,579 per preschooler in family child care². During the recession, early care and education programs subsidized by the State of California for low-income families experienced budget reductions totaling \$1.5 billion³ impacting families with the greatest need. Over the past few years, modest increases have restored some funds to the subsidized system, although a substantial gap between funding and need remains.

State and Local Priorities

Most recently, attention at state and local levels to the importance of the early years has generated new public investments. Contributing to this momentum, the California Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education released its final report in April 2019 with a list of recommendations that called for significant funding and systems change. The 2019-2020 California Budget includes \$5 million for a Master Plan for Early Learning and Care, \$245 million for grants to child care and preschool providers for facilities expansions, and \$195 million for early learning and care workforce development grants.

Locally, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) lobbied successfully for State investment in the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Children in Foster Care. The Board also instructed the Chief Executive Office – Homeless Initiative to identify strategies to connect families experiencing homelessness with early care and education services and mandated the Chief Executive Office, in consultation with the Roundtable and the OAECE, to identify county-owned properties that could provide space for early care and education programming. Further local support is the identification of access to quality early care and education as a critical strategy for the prevention of child abuse and neglect as highlighted in the LA County’s Office for Child

Protection’s (OCP) *Countywide Child Protection Strategic Plan – 2016-21*⁴.

In Los Angeles County, responsibility for harnessing this new energy to create an early care and education system that meets child and family needs rests with three entities, the Planning Committee, the Roundtable and the OAECE housed within the DPH Health Promotion Bureau.

Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education

In 2000, the Los Angeles County Office of Child Care (OCC), the predecessor of the OAECE, was established under the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to address the child care needs of Los Angeles County employees and to staff a state-mandated local child care and development planning council (Planning Committee). Soon after the establishment of the Planning Committee, the Board called for the founding of the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development to focus on early care and education policy and systems improvement. Management of both the Planning Committee and the Roundtable were assigned to OCC. In 2001, the role of the OCC expanded to workforce professional development with the Investing in the Early Educators Stipend Program, followed by the California Transitional Kindergarten Stipend Program (CTKSP). OCC developed and implemented the Steps to Excellence Program (STEP), a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) in 2007. Although OCC no longer leads a QRIS program, it continues to influence quality practices as a part of Quality Start Los Angeles. OCC changed its name to OAECE in 2016 and transitioned to DPH in 2018. The move to DPH reflected recognition of the vital role that early care and education plays in child development, family well-being and community health.

² Child Care Planning Committee. *The State of Early Care and Education in Los Angeles County – Los Angeles County: Child Care Planning Committee 2017 Needs Assessment Executive Summary*. March 2017.

³ California Budget Project. (2012). *Falling Behind: The Impact of the Great Recession and the Budget Crisis on California’s Women and Their Families*.

⁴ See ocp.lacounty.gov/Portals/OCP/PDF/OCP%20Strategic%20Plan%20and%20Progress%20Updates/2016-10-20%20OCP%20Strategic%20Plan%202016-2021.pdf?ver=2018-10-23-170532-757.

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Child Care Planning Committee

The Child Care Planning Committee is Los Angeles County's state mandated Local Child Care and Development Planning Council (LPC) funded by the California Department of Education (CDE). Established as the County's LPC in 1991, the Child Care Planning Committee is staffed by OAECE and is composed of 50 members including parents/consumers, early educators, board appointees and representatives of public agencies, community-based organizations, higher education, and resource and referral agencies. The State requires the Planning Committee to conduct county-wide planning to address access to quality, affordable early care and education.



Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development

The Roundtable, established in 2000, is a Board of Supervisors appointed body composed of 25 community leaders in early childhood, education, business, economics, and research and representatives of County Departments including Child and Family Services, Mental Health, Probation, Public Health, Public Social Services, and Parks and Recreation. The Roundtable is staffed by OAECE and charged with developing policy recommendations for elevation to the Board of Supervisors, advising County departments on early care and education programs, and identifying strategies to secure, coordinate, and maximize funding for high quality services.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

Strategic planning was launched in the fall of 2018 by the OAECE in partnership with the Planning Committee and the Roundtable. Funding from First 5 LA supported the Center for Nonprofit Management to facilitate the planning process. The proposal to bring these entities together to develop a unified plan demonstrates a recognition across all participating bodies that working together is a tremendous step toward a more cohesive system in Los Angeles County.

Values and Guidelines

Early in their work together, the three participant entities articulated a set of values to inform the planning process. They agreed that the process would 1) embrace a deliberate focus on equity, 2) inspire collaboration and partnerships with community stakeholders and meaningful engagement of authentic family and parent voices, 3) be trauma-informed, 4) promote policy and systems change, and 5) use data to inform planning and advocacy. These values informed the development of a set of guidelines that were intentionally aligned with the Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education's approved principles. The guidelines served as a framework for the identification of strategic priority

areas and strategies. These guidelines focus on access, equity, quality, workforce, families, financing, targeted investments, data and advocacy. Going forward, the guidelines will be used to evaluate potential tactics and the crafting of implementation activities. To learn more about the guidelines, please see Appendix A.

One Vision, One Mission

The strategic planning process entailed review of the intersecting mission statements of the OAECE, Planning Committee, and Roundtable to arrive at the following united vision and mission statements:

VISION

Children are healthy, thriving and have equitable opportunities to achieve optimal development and succeed in life.

MISSION

Lead, build, and strengthen an affordable and high-quality early care and education system for the children and families in Los Angeles County.

OFFICE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION AS A CHANGE AGENT

With the shared vision and mission as the foundation, the OAECE, Roundtable and Planning Committee will implement the 2020-2025 strategic plan through a united effort managed by OAECE. As the Los Angeles County early care and education office, OAECE has a unique mandate to promote systems change through the advancement of new policy and program initiatives, based on the work of its collaborating partners. The strategic plan highlights the mandate of OAECE as an agent of policy and systems change through five primary roles.

Educator: It is the job of OAECE to inform partners, advise key stakeholders and publicly promote the importance of quality early care and education to support the well-being of children, strengthen families and help communities thrive.

Convener: The plan will require OAECE to convene and nurture committees, commissions and task forces to act as agents of change in early care and education policy and systems planning.

Data Manager: Reflecting the shared value noted above, it will be the task of OAECE to gather, organize, manage, and disseminate data related to family needs, system capacity, program quality and child and family outcomes to shape effective strategies and strengthen early childhood systems.

Strategist: Drawing on data, OAECE will be called upon to conceptualize, design, and implement innovative programmatic, policy, and systems change strategies.

Advocate: To assure implementation of system improvements, OAECE will need to mobilize and support advocacy for public policies (legislative and administrative) that build and strengthen the early care and education system in Los Angeles County.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The 2020–2025 strategic priorities will guide collective efforts of the OAECE, Roundtable, and Planning Committee over the next five years. Grounded in the Planning Committee’s 2017 needs assessment entitled *The State of Early Care and Education in Los Angeles County*,⁵ the priorities focus on 1) access to early care and education, 2) early care and education quality, 3) early care and education workforce supports, and 4) family and community engagement on early care and education issues. The paragraphs that follow provide a brief preview of each of the priorities and one example of the kinds of activities under each strategy that will be expanded upon in the implementation stage of planning.

Priority 1: Access

The early years are a critical period in human development. The foundation that is built through a child’s participation in quality early care and education is associated with positive economic, educational and social impacts lasting well into adulthood⁶, benefitting both the individual child, family and larger community. Unfortunately, many families in Los Angeles County do not have access to affordable, quality early care and education. There are approximately 650,000 children under five in Los Angeles County, but only 206,830 spaces in licensed centers and family child care. The 2017 early care and education needs assessment highlighted challenges like a shortage of infant and toddler care, the decline in family child care homes, increased participation in transitional kindergarten, and the high cost of child care.

Goal 1: Increase access to early care and education services for children birth to five years of age and out of school care for children to age twelve.

Strategies:

1.1: Reduce barriers and maximize resources to expand early care and education services to centers and family child care homes, prioritizing infants and toddlers, high-need families, and under resourced communities.

- **Example Activity** – *Finalize and promote a toolkit that helps early care and education providers navigate the facility development system including licensing, zoning, fire, and public health.*

1.2: Advocate for funding to build or upgrade early care and education centers and family child care homes.

- **Example Activity** – *Develop a cross-sector advocacy strategy for facilities funding and for tackling barriers to facility development.*

1.3: Lead the analysis of data on the needs of Los Angeles County families for early care and education services and share with stakeholders to inform local planning and increased early learning investments.

- **Example Activity** – *Launch an on-line dashboard to inform the public about the supply and demand of Los Angeles County early care and education services.*



⁵ Child Care Planning Committee. *The State of Early Care and Education in Los Angeles County – Los Angeles County: Child Care Planning Committee 2017 Needs Assessment Executive Summary*. March 2017. See childcare.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/ECE-Needs-Assessment_Executive-Brief-03-30-2017.pdf.

⁶ Schweinhart, L.J., Montie, J., Zongping, X., Barnett, W.S., Belfield, C.R., & Nores, M. *Lifetime Effects: The High/Scope Perry Preschool Study Through Age 40* (pp. 194–215). Ypsilanti, MI: High/Scope Press. © 2005 by High/Scope® Educational Research Foundation.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Priority 2: Quality

Every parent should have the opportunity to enroll their child in a high-quality early care and education program. Research shows that there is a relationship between early care and education quality and children's academic achievement, as well as language and cognitive development.⁷ To increase the quality of care, initiatives like Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) have emerged across the country. Locally, Quality Start Los Angeles (QSLA)⁸ has led the way in strengthening a county-wide quality improvement system. While QRIS is an approach to incentivize and support quality improvement, it is just one strategy on a continuum of quality improvement supports which may include *teacher-focused* efforts like training; *setting-focused* efforts like facilities grants; *family-focused* efforts like educating parents about quality; and *systems level efforts* which focus on setting and meeting standards.⁹

Goal 2: Strengthen the quality of early care and education services, especially for children and families most in need.

Strategies:

2.1: Partner with local quality improvement efforts to provide input, inform and influence quality improvement efforts.

- **Example Activity** – Launch a campaign in partnership with the Quality Start LA to promote what quality looks like in a program.

2.2: Advocate for increased quality improvement investments for all providers including centers, family child care, and family, friends, and neighbor care.

- **Example Activity** – Elevate quality improvement policy recommendations to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Roundtable.

2.3: Leverage data from local quality improvement efforts to publicly promote the importance of quality care.

- **Example Activity** – Release a “True Cost of Quality Care” infographic based on the Comprehensive Fiscal Analysis funding model.

2.4: Promote integration across early childhood services and develop strategies that connect early childhood education with other child/family support systems.

- **Example Activity** – Create a handbook that helps parents navigate early childhood services such as early care and education, home visitation, developmental screenings, early childhood mental health consultation, kindergarten transition, library services, and parks and recreation.



⁷ Jeon, L. & Buettner, C.K. (2014). *Quality rating and improvement systems and children's cognitive development*. Child Youth Care Forum, 44, 191-207. Doi: 10.1007/s10566-014-9277-7.

⁸ Quality Start Los Angeles (QSLA) is a voluntary quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) designed to help parents of children birth to five choose the best early childhood education for their family.

⁹ Boller, K., Tarrant, K. & Schaack, D.D. (2014). *Early Care and Education Quality Improvement: A Typology of Intervention Approaches*. OPRE Research Report #2014-36. Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Priority 3: Workforce

The quality of early learning programs for children is intrinsically connected to the early care and education workforce. Given the importance of a workforce armed with the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to achieve quality care, the Plan elevates workforce as a separate priority, rather than just a component of the quality priority discussed above. Numerous studies indicate that a well-educated workforce provides children with better quality care resulting in increased developmental gains.¹⁰ A key to enhancing the quality of the early care and education system lies in the professionalization of the workforce and a comprehensive professional development pathway comprised of college coursework, training, coaching and mentoring. Unfortunately, the early care and education workforce faces multiple challenges inclusive of low wages, limited education, and barriers to accessing professional development that must be addressed to achieve improved system quality.

Goal 3: Improve the compensation and qualifications of the early care and education workforce.

Strategies:

3.1: Advocate for increased compensation for the early care and education workforce.

- **Example Activity** – Release a policy brief advocating for a single reimbursement rate that incentivizes and compensates for the true cost of quality care.

3.2: Advocate for an efficient, comprehensive statewide data system to track information on the workforce and provide a portal for early educators to access professional development opportunities and build their career profiles.

- **Example Activity** – Integrate the Investing in Early Educators Stipend Program with the Early Care and Education Workforce Registry to reduce duplicated work and increase efficiency in serving the early care and education workforce.

3.3: Reduce barriers to professional development opportunities.

- **Example Activity** – Build a one-stop website that seamlessly connects Los Angeles County early educators to training opportunities of all kinds.



¹⁰ Saracho, O.N. & Spodek, B. (2007). *Early childhood teachers' preparation and the quality of program outcomes*. Early Child Development and Care, 177 (1), 71-91. Doi: 10.1080/03004430500317366.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Priority 4: Families and Communities

To build an effective early care and education system in Los Angeles County, it is essential to incorporate the voices of parents, primary caregivers,¹¹ and communities. Children learn and grow in the context of overlapping spheres of influence,¹² so it is critical to build effective and reciprocal partnerships among early care and education programs, families, and communities. A key component for effective systems changes lies in authentically engaging parents, understanding the early care and education issues they face day to day, and inviting them to be partners in developing solutions.

Goal 4: Increase engagement of parents, caregivers and communities on early care and education issues.

Strategies:

4.1: Assure parent and caregiver access to research findings on early care and education issues.

• **Example Activity** – Release family-friendly materials that promote the importance of early care and education by collaborating with allies like Resource and Referral agencies.

4.2: Empower and mobilize families as advocates for early care and education resources.

• **Example Activity** – Launch an early care and education campaign that advances the authentic parent voice through parent testimonials.

4.3: Engage parents, families and community members as thought partners on early care and education issues through events and committees.

• **Example Activity** – Establish a parent/caregiver workgroup as a part of the Planning Committee to inform and influence early care and education planning across Los Angeles County.



¹¹ Primary caregivers include legal guardians, foster parents, and relative caregivers.

¹² Epstein, J. L. (1987). *Toward a theory of family-school connections: Teacher practices and parent involvement*. In K. Hurrelmann, F. Kaufman and F. Loel (Eds.), *Social Intervention: Potential and Constraints* (pp. 121-136). New York: Walter de Gruyter.

IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING

While this initial strategic plan will guide the direction of OAECE, the Planning Committee and the Roundtable over the next five years, the plan is very broad. An implementation plan, to be completed by June 2020, will bring the strategic priorities to life. Throughout the strategic planning process, OAECE has garnered a wealth of information that will inform the development of a comprehensive implementation plan that will identify specific actions needed to accomplish targeted goals. The next phase of the planning process will launch in January 2020 through an all-day input session with parents, early care and education providers, community organizations, public agencies, supervisorial representatives and various Los Angeles County Departments.

The implementation plan will tackle critical issues to guide success including:

- **Assumptions:** Articulate a clear set of assumptions about factors that shape access, quality, the workforce and family engagement.
- **Objectives:** Establish clear, measurable objectives for each strategy area.
- **Implementation Activities:** Develop activities for each of the four priority areas and strategies.
- **Roles and Responsibilities:** Define the distinct roles and responsibilities of OAECE, the Planning Committee, the Roundtable and other stakeholders within each strategy.
- **Timeline:** Create an implementation timeline with annual targets for outcomes and milestones for success.
- **Resources and Budget:** Produce an inventory of fiscal and in-kind resources needed to execute the implementation plan effectively.

If you are interested in participating in implementation planning, please contact the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education at (213) 639-6202.



APPENDIX A

Guiding Principles

The guiding principles, intentionally aligned with the Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education's approved principles,¹³ provide direction for the identification of strategic priority areas and preliminary action items. Going forward, the guiding principles will be used to evaluate potential tactics and the crafting of additional action items.

Access: All children and their families should have access to nurturing, educational, culturally, linguistically and developmentally appropriate high-quality early care and education opportunities with a commitment to social, behavioral, cognitive and physical development and continuity of care.

Equity: Equity must inform all decisions and systems and implicit bias must be acknowledged and managed. Policies and systems should affirmatively remove obstacles and barriers for families seeking access to early care and education.

Quality: All families should have access to a variety of high-quality early care and education settings that meet their needs and that are affordable.

Workforce: High quality early care and education requires a competent, effective and well-compensated and professionally supported workforce who reflect the racial, ethnic and linguistic diversity and needs of the children and the families they serve across the various roles and settings.

Families: Early care and education must be integrated with other supports and services that contribute to children's optimal development, engages and strengthens families, and builds upon the capacity of the workforce.

Financing: High quality early care and education requires leveraging financing that is adequate and sustainable with incentives for quality and targeted investments to ensure equity for children and families with the greatest needs.

Targeted Investments: Efforts are required to maintain services, prioritize areas of need by targeting investments, capitalize in what works, and build upon areas of success.

Data and Advocacy: The County of Los Angeles in partnership with its local stakeholders¹⁴ plays a significant role in advocating for legislative and administrative policies and investments informed by robust data and current research to meet the needs of our children and their families. Our work must be transparent, accountable, collaborative, and committed to equity, continuous improvement and responsive to emerging needs.

¹³ Adapted from the Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education Principles approved on October 9, 2018. Their principles are posted at speaker.asmdc.org/sites/speaker.asmdc.org/files/pdf/BRC-Principles-Final-120318.pdf.

¹⁴ Local stakeholders are inclusive of parents and other primary caregivers (e.g. foster parents, legal guardians and relatives), early educators, institutions of higher education, child care resource and referral agencies, public agencies (i.e. County departments), philanthropy, advocacy organizations, businesses, and others concerned with the optimal well-being of children, families and communities.



Los Angeles County
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY MANUAL

| Policy #: | Title: | Effective Date: |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 9.015 | County Policy of Equity | 07/01/11 |

PURPOSE

This Policy is intended to preserve the dignity, respect, and professionalism of the workplace as well as to protect the right of all employees to be free from discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment (other than sexual), retaliation and inappropriate conduct toward others based on a state or federal protected characteristic.

Further, the County will not tolerate retaliation for filing a complaint under the Policy or similar state or federal law, for participating in an administrative investigation or proceeding under the Policy, for performing duties under the Policy, or for otherwise opposing conduct prohibited by the Policy.

As a preventive measure, the County will not tolerate inappropriate conduct toward others based on a protected characteristic even if the conduct does not meet the Policy definition of discrimination, retaliation, sexual harassment, or harassment.

Inappropriate conduct toward others, discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment (other than sexual), and retaliation are contrary to the values of the County of Los Angeles. As such, all members of the County workforce are responsible for conducting themselves in accordance with this Policy and its associated Procedures.

Violation of the Policy and/or Procedures will lead to appropriate administrative action including, but not limited to, counseling, training, written warning, written reprimand, suspension, demotion, or discharge.

Managers, supervisors, co-workers, and certain third-parties are prohibited from engaging in unlawful behavior under the Fair Employment and Housing Act, and this Policy.

REFERENCE

[May 31, 2011](#), Chief Executive Office and Executive Office, Board of Supervisors:
Approval of County of Los Angeles Policy of Equity

[County of Los Angeles Policy of Equity, July 1, 2011](#)

Department of Human Resources, Policies, [Procedures and Guidelines Number 910](#),
Employees Cooperation in the Administrative Investigations Process

[Los Angeles County Code Chapter 5.09](#), Policy of Equity

June 6, 2017 [Board Order No. 8](#)

Department of Human Resources, [Policies, Procedures and Guidelines Number 812](#),
County Policy of Equity

POLICY

THE POLICY

All members of the Los Angeles County (County) workforce are required to conduct themselves in accordance with the entirety of this County Policy of Equity (Policy), and all applicable local, county, state, and federal laws.

COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: PROHIBITED CONDUCT

All members of the County workforce are responsible for understanding and abiding by these definitions of prohibited conduct.

COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

| Age (40 and over) | Ancestry | Color |
|---|--|--|
| Ethnicity | Religious Creed (including religious dress and grooming practices) | Denial of family and medical care leave |
| Disability (including mental and physical disability) | Marital Status | Medical Condition (cancer and genetic characteristics) |
| Genetic Information | Military and Veteran Status | National Origin (including language use restrictions) |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Race (inclusive of traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles) | Sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, and medical conditions related to pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding) | Gender (includes an individual's gender identity and gender expression) |
| Sexual Orientation | Any Other Characteristic Protected by State or Federal Law | |

SCOPE OF COVERAGE

County Workforce: For purposes of this Policy, County workforce includes but is not limited to County employees (including supervisors and managers), Commissioners, contractors, applicants for employment, unpaid volunteers and interns, and persons providing services pursuant to a contract. Complaints raised by members of the public, patrons, or otherwise not members of the County workforce may be investigated under the Policy in appropriate circumstances.

Location: This Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment, retaliation, and inappropriate conduct toward others based on a protected status, whether in the workplace or in an environment with a nexus to the workplace.¹

Communication System/Equipment: This Policy also applies to the use of any communication system or equipment in the workplace, including but not limited to, electronic mail, internet, intranet, telephone lines, computers, facsimile machines, voicemail, virtual meeting and communication platforms, radio, cell phones, and mobile digital terminals.

SECTION 1. COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination is the disparate or adverse treatment of an individual (based on or because of any of the protected characteristics as delineated in this Policy).

SECTION 2. COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature which meets any one of the following criteria:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment;

¹ This may include, but is not limited to conduct, language, comments, gestures, photos, or social media use whether or not taking place in the county workplace or during working hours, if sufficiently connected to the workplace or otherwise jurisdictional to the Policy.

- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's employment or creating an intimidating, hostile, offensive, or abusive working environment, and a reasonable person subjected to the conduct would find that the harassment so altered working conditions as to make it more difficult to perform the job.

SECTION 3. COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: HARASSMENT (OTHER THAN SEXUAL)

Harassment is conduct which has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, offensive, or abusive work environment (based on or because of any of the protected characteristics delineated in this Policy).

SECTION 4. COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: THIRD-PERSON HARASSMENT

Third-person harassment is indirect harassment of a bystander, even if the person engaging in the conduct is unaware of the presence of the bystander. When an individual engages in potentially harassing behavior, that person assumes the risk that someone may pass by or otherwise witness the behavior. The County considers this to be the same as directing the harassment toward that individual.

SECTION 5. COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT TOWARD OTHERS

Inappropriate conduct toward others is any conduct (based on or because of any of the protected characteristics delineated in this Policy) when such conduct reasonably would be considered inappropriate for the workplace.

This provision is intended to stop inappropriate conduct based on a protected characteristic or activity before it rises to the level of discrimination, sexual harassment, retaliation, or harassment under the Policy.

As such, the conduct need not meet legally actionable state and/or federal standards to violate this Policy. An isolated derogatory comment, joke, racial slur, sexual innuendo, etc., may constitute conduct that violates this policy. Similarly, the conduct need not be unwelcome to the party against whom it is directed; if the conduct reasonably would be considered inappropriate by the County for the workplace, it may violate this Policy.

SECTION 6. COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: RETALIATION

This Policy prohibits retaliation. Retaliation for the purposes of this Policy is an adverse employment action against another for: 1) reporting a protected incident; 2) filing a complaint of conduct or opposing conduct that violates this Policy or related State or Federal law; or 3) participating in an investigation, administrative proceeding or otherwise exercising their rights or performing their duties under this Policy or related State or

Federal law. Retaliatory conduct not rising to a violation of this provision may nonetheless violate the Inappropriate Conduct Toward Others policy provision, as mentioned above.

SECTION 7. COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: DUTY TO COOPERATE

All County employees are responsible for cooperating fully in any administrative investigation related to this Policy in accordance with County Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines (PPG) 910. Interview cooperation at the complaint and investigation stages ensures accurate information is obtained.

SECTION 8. NO RETALIATION

This Policy absolutely prohibits retaliation. No County employee will be subjected to an adverse employment action for: making a complaint of conduct, or opposing conduct that potentially violates this Policy, or cooperating in any administrative investigation or otherwise preventing prohibited practices or performing duties under this Policy. The County will take corrective administrative action to prevent retaliation, including the imposition of appropriate discipline to any County employee who engages in retaliation.

SECTION 9. CONFIDENTIALITY

The County shall maintain all complaint-related information in confidence to the extent possible given the obligation to conduct a full and fair investigation and to the extent permitted by law. For more information concerning confidentiality, County workforce members should contact the CISU.

SECTION 10. COUNTY POLICY OF EQUITY: DUTIES OF SUPERVISORS AND MANAGERS

Supervisors and managers have an affirmative duty to report potential violations of this Policy to the County Intake Specialist Unit (CISU). Supervisors and managers also have additional duties and responsibilities as detailed in the procedures associated with this Policy.

Supervisors and managers, for purposes of the Policy include: any member of the County workforce regardless of job description or title, having authority, in the interest of the employer, to hire, transfer, suspend, layoff, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or responsibility to direct them, or to adjust their grievances, or effectively to recommend such action, if, in connection with the foregoing, the exercise of this authority is not of a merely routine or clerical nature, but requires the exercise of independent judgment.

SECTION 11. DUTY OF ALL SUPERVISORS AND MANAGERS TO REPORT

Supervisors and managers have an affirmative duty to report potential violations of the Policy. Supervisors and managers are required to report potential violations of the Policy to the CISU as provided below even when a complaining or reporting party requests that no action be taken. Supervisors and managers remain responsible under this provision if

the reporting has been delegated and a report is not made as set forth below. The supervisor or manager shall:

- Within a reasonable time under the circumstances, notify the CISU of the incident(s) or complaint and any initial steps taken by the supervisor or manager; and
- Complete a County Policy of Equity Report/Notification form ("CPOE Report Form") with the CISU.
 - The CISU encourages the filing of CPOE Report forms via website at <https://ceop.lacounty.gov>.

SECTION 12. ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF ALL SUPERVISORS AND MANAGERS

Supervisors and managers are also responsible for:

- Being aware of, abiding by and understanding the Policy and Procedures, as well as any modifications that may be made to them;
- Actively monitoring the work environment to ensure that conduct that potentially violates the County Policy of Equity is not occurring;
- Informing County workforce members under their supervision of the types of behavior prohibited, and the County's procedures for reporting and resolving complaints arising under the Policy;
- To the extent reasonable, stopping conduct that potentially violates the Policy and taking appropriate administrative action regardless of whether the involved County employees are within their line of supervision; and
- If a situation requires separation of the involved parties, particular care must be taken to avoid actions that punish the complaining party. (Note: Supervisors and managers are not required to place themselves in physical harm's way to separate the parties.)

Supervisors and managers have the foregoing duties regardless of whether a complaint has been made.

SECTION 13. ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

In addition to the duties described above, Department Heads have the following duties:

- Ensuring that the Policy is disseminated to all employees within the Department; and
- Ensuring that each County workforce member is provided access to a computer or mobile device capable of utilizing the County's online CPOE reporting portal, and reasonable time to make use of the portal or file a CPOE Report form, and ensuring that blank CPOE Report forms are maintained in a prominent and

accessible place. It is the further duty of the Department Head to ensure that the location, availability, and purpose of the computer portal or mobile device and the CPOE Report forms are made known to all department members.

EXAMPLES OF CONDUCT THAT MAY VIOLATE THIS POLICY

Depending on the facts and circumstances, below are examples of conduct that may violate this Policy. Please be advised that this list is not exhaustive:

- Posting, sending, forwarding, soliciting or displaying in the workplace any materials, documents or images that are, including but not limited to, sexually suggestive, racist;
- Verbal conduct such as whistling and cat calls, using or making lewd or derogatory noises or making graphic comments about another's body, or participating in discussions about sexual experiences and/or desires;
- Verbal conduct such as using sexually, racially or ethnically degrading words or names, using or making racial or ethnic epithets, slurs, or jokes;
- Verbal conduct such as comments or gestures about a person's physical appearance which have a racial, sexual, disability-related, religious, age or ethnic connotation or derogatory comments about religious differences and practices;
- Physical conduct such as touching, pinching, massaging, hugging, kissing, rubbing the body or making sexual gestures;
- Visual conduct such as staring, leering, displaying or circulating sexually suggestive objects, pictures, posters, photographs, cartoons, calendars, drawings, magazines, computer images or graphics;
- Sexual advances or propositions, including repeated requests for a date;
- Adverse employment actions like discharge and/or demotion based on or because of any of the protected characteristics delineated in this Policy.

REPORTING POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS OF THIS POLICY

Any member of the County workforce who believes they have been subjected to conduct that potentially violates this Policy has the right to, without undue obstruction or interference, report the potential violation to:

- A supervisor or manager, regardless of whether the County workforce member is directly supervised by that person. As noted above, supervisors and managers have an affirmative duty to report potential violations of this Policy to the CISU. Supervisors and managers also have additional duties and responsibilities as detailed in the procedures associated with this Policy.

- The County Intake Specialist Unit (CISU). The CISU may be reached as follows:
 - Website: <https://CEOP.lacounty.gov>;
 - By phone: **1-855-999-CEOP (2367)** or
 - Visiting the CISU located at: Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Room # B-26, Los Angeles, CA 90012, during the hours of 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

Any non-supervisory member of the County workforce who believes they have knowledge of conduct that potentially violates this Policy is also strongly encouraged to report the matter.

INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS AND CORRECTIVE ACTION

All complaints filed under the Policy will undergo a fair, complete, and timely investigation, followed by reasonable conclusions drawn from the evidence collected. The scope of each investigation shall be determined by the facts presented. The County will take appropriate corrective action if misconduct is revealed, including, but not limited to, counseling, training, written warning, written reprimand, suspension, demotion, or discharge.

County Intake Specialist Unit

The CISU is an initial point of contact for County employees who wish to report a potential violation of the Policy. County employees are not required to identify themselves when contacting the CISU. The CISU also functions as a specialized resource for all County employees concerning the CPOE and these procedures. The CISU shall respond to inquiries, including anonymous inquiries, about the Policy and procedures and provide information to County employees about, among other things, their rights and responsibilities and complaint and investigation procedures concerning administrative equity matters. If a caller provides enough information to indicate a potential violation of the Policy, the CISU shall complete the CPOE Report Form and inform the caller of this fact.

The CISU shall be responsible for conducting an initial investigation of the CPOE Report Form/complaint to determine the appropriate course of action based on the designations below:

- "A" designation indicates that, based on the initial intake investigation, it is determined that there has been/is a potential violation of the County Policy of Equity, which rises to a level requiring a further investigation by the County Equity Investigations Unit (CEIU);
- "B" designation indicates that, based upon the initial intake investigation, the County Intake Specialist Unit (CISU) has determined that although the situation may involve, or appear to involve, an equity issue, the situation does not rise to the level of a potential violation of the County Policy of Equity and/or require a further investigation by the CEIU;

- "C" designation indicates that, based upon the initial intake investigation, the CISU has determined that there is no equity issue involved;
- "A/E" "B/E" "C/E" designation indicates that the initial intake investigation reveals that a discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation complaint was received by County from an external agency, such as the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), and/or from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC); and
- "N" designation indicates a non-jurisdictional incident.

The CISU may contact the complainant during the investigation if there is a reasonable basis to believe retaliation is occurring. The CISU shall make prompt notification to the appropriate parties if an issue of retaliation is revealed.

The County Equity Investigations Unit

The County Equity Investigations Unit (CEIU) is responsible for timely, fully and fairly investigating CPOE Report Forms/complaints of conduct that potentially violate the Policy or procedures. CEIU investigations shall be as confidential as reasonably possible, and consistent with the County's obligation to conduct a full, fair and impartial investigation.

The completed investigation is submitted to the County Equity Oversight Panel (CEOP) for review.

The County Equity Oversight Panel

The CEOP is an independent oversight body which, in accordance with the procedures described in this section, shall have authority and be responsible for reviewing CEIU investigations and making recommendations to County Department Heads concerning the disposition and discipline recommended. The CEOP shall meet as needed to discuss and review each CEIU investigation.

The review process shall consist of the following steps:

The CEOP shall review each CEIU investigation and have the opportunity to question the CEIU investigator(s) who conducted the investigation. The involved Subject's Department Head, designee, or other appropriate representative shall attend the briefing². After the briefing, the CEOP shall recommend appropriate dispositions and discipline, if discipline is warranted.

- The CEOP shall meet to read, review and discuss each CEIU investigation;
- In all cases, the CEOP may direct the CEIU to conduct further investigation. If

² The CEOP briefing is an informal yet structured meeting between members of the CEOP and the appropriate Departmental representatives, during which the facts of the investigation(s) are discussed. At the conclusion of the briefing, the CEOP provides case disposition(s) and disciplinary recommendation(s).

further investigation is directed, another briefing shall be held in accordance with this section after the investigation; and

- The Executive Director of the CEOP shall communicate the Panel's recommendations to the involved Department. When required, the involved Department shall issue all required notifications to the Subject or, where appropriate, inform the parties to the complaint that the complaint was substantiated, unsubstantiated, or inconclusive.

DUE PROCESS, GRIEVANCE AND APPEAL RIGHTS

County Employee Rights

All applicable County employee due process, grievance and appeal rights remain intact under this Policy and Procedures.

Represented County employees may grieve disciplinary actions according to the terms of applicable memoranda of understanding ("MOU") negotiated by the Department and the union representing said members. As such, these MOUs may require separate or additional procedures according to their respective terms.

Appeals to Civil Service Commission

County Employees may also appeal final determinations of discipline to the Civil Service Commission in accordance with the Civil Service Rules. The Department shall notify the Executive Director of the County's Equity Oversight Panel of a settled Civil Service Commission case.

ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENTAL DUTIES

Departments must provide timely status notifications related to all disciplinary County Equity Oversight Panel recommendations, to enhance accountability and oversight of the Panel recommendations process. Specifically, Departments shall provide regular status updates to the Executive Director of the CEOP (EDCEOP) regarding:

- Disciplinary action imposed, as recommended by the Panel (along with date of imposition to monitor timeliness of the disciplinary process);
- Decisions not to take disciplinary action or to take a lesser form of corrective action than that recommended by the Panel;
 - Note: All Department Heads or designees shall promptly communicate, in writing, to the EDCEOP, the factual basis for any decision not to follow the recommendations of the County Equity Oversight Panel.
- Alterations to Panel-recommended disciplinary action taken, as a result of, but not limited to, Skelly proceedings, appeals processes (including Civil Service proceedings), and arbitrations.

Information collected regarding adherence to County Equity Oversight Panel recommendations may be reported to County Counsel, the Board of Supervisors, and/or the Department of Human Resources.

EXTERNAL COMPLAINT MONITORING

All members of the County workforce may also contact the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) by calling (800) 884-1684 or visiting their website at www.dfeh.ca.gov; and/or may contact the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) by calling (213) 894-1000 or (800) 669-4000 or visiting their website at www.eeoc.gov.

The CEIU shall receive and process all external discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation complaints. A Department in receipt of an external discrimination, harassment and/or retaliation complaint shall forward the complaint to the CEIU for processing. The CEIU will file the complaint with the CISU for preliminary investigation and designation under the Policy. The CEIU shall make any required contact, communication and/or closure with the involved external entity.

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT

Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors

County Department of Human Resources

DATE ISSUED/SUNSET DATE

Issue Date: July 1, 2011

Review Date: July 16, 2015

Review Date: June 6, 2017

Review Date: June 25, 2019

Review Date: September 14, 2021

Sunset Date: July 1, 2015

Sunset Date: July 1, 2019

Sunset Date: July 1, 2021

Sunset Date: October 1, 2021

Sunset Date: October 1, 2023

RECOMMENDED PURSUIT OF POSITION – GOVERNOR’S 2023-24 BUDGET PROPOSAL AND LEGISLATION: EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

Introduction

The Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission (Policy Roundtable) firmly believes that all young children in Los Angeles County have an undeniable right to develop and thrive without explicit and implicit bias. Due to structural inequity, all legislation and policies should be examined through an equity lens to build a system where all children have access to high quality, affordable early care and education (ECE). With this as a core value, the Policy Roundtable recommends that the Board of Supervisors adopt the following proposed pursuit of position to increase access to and strengthen the ECE system by:

- 1) Award and distribute ECE spaces appropriated in the 2023-24 budget by June 30, 2024 and include a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27
- 2) Include in the state's Child Care Development Fund Plan Federal FY 2025-27 an alternative rate methodology based on the true cost of care by the July 1, 2024 submission
- 3) Require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit renewal restriction

This document provides a brief analysis of each proposed policy position and justification. It concludes with the recommended pursuit of position and consistency with existing Los Angeles County legislative policies.

- 1) Award and distribute ECE spaces appropriated in the 2023-24 budget by June 30, 2024 and include a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27**

Summary Analysis of Proposed Budget Item

California’s subsidized child care and development system is a critical resource for families with low to moderate income seeking quality and affordable early learning and care. Poverty among young children has increased. For example between 2021 and 2022, poverty for California’s children ages birth to three years old rose 143% and 166% for children ages birth to five years old.¹ Black, Latinx, and other Californians of color, especially those with low income and children, were more likely to struggle paying for basic expenses.² According to the 2022 Los Angeles County ECE Needs Assessment, the median annual tuition for infant child care is \$18,917 in a center-based setting and \$12,378 in a family child care home.³ Additionally, there is an insufficient supply of ECE spaces across Los Angeles County and the high cost of child care has become a crucial workforce issue across all sectors, particularly impacting working women. The estimated annual economic impact of the lack of infant/toddler child care on California is \$17 Billion.⁴

¹ Poverty Rapidly Increased for California’s Youngest Children, California Budget and Policy Center. March 20, 2024 <https://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/poverty-rapidly-increased-for-californias-youngest-children/>

² Millions of Californians Are Struggling to Make Ends Meet. California Budget and Policy Center. March 22, 2024 <https://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/millions-of-californians-are-struggling-to-make-ends-meet/>

³ Child Care Portfolio. (2023). California Child Care Resource and Referral Network. March 20, 2024 https://rrnetwork.org/research/child_care_portfolio

⁴ \$122 Billion: The Growing, Annual Cost of the Infant-Toddler Child Care Crisis. (2023). Council for a Strong America. March 23, 2024 <https://www.strongnation.org/articles/2038-122-billion-the-growing-annual-cost-of-the-infant-toddler-child-care-crisis>

California's 2021-22 budget set a goal of adding 200,000 new subsidized child care spaces by 2025-26. As of 2023-24, the state funded approximately 146,000 of these 200,000 new spaces but only 118,000 spaces materialized due to a slower timeline with the General Child Care contract allocation. As a result, 28,000 child care spaces of the 146,000 budgeted for 2023-24 have not been created. In fact, the number of child care spaces being funded in 2023-24 has stayed stagnant at 118,000, and the expansion deadline was extended from 2025-26 to 2026-27, with the intention of adding the remaining child care subsidies starting in 2024-25. The proposed 2024-25 budget adds the 28,000 child care spaces to the current 118,000, totaling 146,000 new spaces for children at a cost of \$2.1 billion. While the proposed 2024-25 budget includes funding for the 28,000 delayed spaces, it does not actually expand the total number of child care subsidies beyond the 146,000 spaces. The Governor maintains his commitment to fund all 200,000 child care spaces by 2026-27; however, the timeline for funding the remaining 54,000 spaces by this deadline remains unclear.⁵ In response to the Governor's budget, the ECE Coalition released its 2024-25 advocacy letter, signed by more than 30 organizations, that requests the 28,000 child care spaces budgeted for 2023-24 are funded and distributed in FY 2023-24 and the state provides a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27.

Justification

The insufficient supply of subsidized ECE spaces is causing additional financial strain on families with low income and reduces the state's ability to optimize its economic growth. It is recommended that Los Angeles County support the ECE Coalition's request that the 28,000 spaces budgeted for 2023-24 are funded and distributed in FY 2023-24 and the state provides a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27.

2) Include in the state's Child Care Development Fund Plan Federal FY 2025-27 an alternative rate methodology based on the true cost of care by the July 1, 2024 submission July 1, 2024 submission

Summary Analysis of Proposed Child Care and Development Fund Plan for California

Current child care subsidy reimbursement rates are based on the 75th percentile of the 2018 regional market rate parents pay for child care. Unfortunately, the current reimbursement rates do not cover the full cost of operating ECE programs serving income eligible families. Subsidy reimbursement rates result in inadequate wages for early educators and the combination of low wages and few benefits drive early educators away from the profession, as well as deter new people from entering the ECE workforce. According to the Center for the Study for Child Care Employment, 65 percent of California's ECE workforce are women of color.⁶ In addition, the Bureau of Labor Statistics stated that Los Angeles County's average annual salary in 2022 for a child care worker is \$36,160, a preschool teacher is \$47,910, and a kindergarten teacher is \$97,490. By comparison, the living wage in Los Angeles County for a single adult with one child is \$91,115 and a two-adult family with two children is \$125,411.⁷ Inadequate reimbursement rates are causing programs to struggle to find qualified staff and are resulting in not being able to enroll enough young children to meet its maximum license capacity.

⁵ First Look: Understanding the Governor's 2024-25 State Budget Proposal. California Budget and Policy Center. March 21, 2024 <https://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/first-look-understanding-the-governors-2024-25-state-budget-proposal/#:~:text=The%202021%2D22%20enacted%20budget,of%20these%20200%2C000%20new%20slots>

⁶ Kim, Y., Austin, L.J.E., & Hess, H. (2024). The Multilayered Effects of Racism on Early Educators in California: An Examination of Disparities in Wages, Leadership Roles, and Education. Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. March 23, 2024 <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/publications/report/effects-of-racism-on-california-early-educators>

⁷ Living Wage Calculation for Los Angeles County, California. (2024). Massachusetts Institute of Technology. March 23, 2024 <https://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/06037>

In 2023, Child Care Providers United (CCPU), the statewide union representing licensed Family Child Care Home providers and license-exempt Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers, reached an agreement with the state that commits to using an alternative reimbursement rate methodology that employs a “cost estimation model” to develop a single rate structure for child care subsidy payment rates. Using a cost estimation model shifts subsidy payment rates from the regional market rate to using the cost it takes child care providers to provide care. Thus, this shift will likely result in reimbursement rates that allow providers to earn a higher wage and attract more people to the field.

The state has not finalized the alternative methodology and cost estimations which can have significant ramifications if they are not completed soon. Every three years the state conducts a planning process to determine how its Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program, authorized under the Child Care Development Block Grant Act, will use federal funds to increase the availability, affordability, and quality of child care services. The state’s CCDF Plan Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2025-27 must be submitted to the Administration for Children and Families Office of Child Care by July 1, 2024. In order for the state to implement the alternative methodology by FFY 2024-25 it must be included in the state’s CCDF Plan. If the state does not include the alternative rate methodology in the CCDF Plan, then the current regional market rate reimbursement methodology will remain in place.

Justification

The state is in the process of changing how it calculates reimbursement rates from a market-based approach to a cost-based model. This is a positive step forward to closing the gap between expenses and revenue, addressing long standing inequities in the system, and stopping the cycle of early educators continually receiving low wages. It is critical that the state establish the reimbursement rate for licensed ECE programs and license-exempt ECE providers based on the true cost of care. It is recommended that Los Angeles County support requests made by the Child Care Law Center, CCPU, and the ECE Coalition to have the California Department of Social Services and Governor: 1) create a robust alternative methodology that pays child care providers a fair and just wage based on their full cost of caring for children, 2) fully implement the alternative methodology with a single-rate structure as soon as possible, and 3) include details of the new single rate structure using the alternative methodology in the state’s CCDF Plan to be submitted by July 1, 2024.

3) Require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit renewal restriction

Summary Analysis of Proposed Legislation

Early care and education does not have the capacity to serve all families who need care and the system faces challenges to retain its current workforce which also must meet education and credentialing requirements. The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) established the Child Development Permit with six different levels and each permit level is initially issued for five years. Permits are renewable for successive five-year periods upon completion of 105 hours of professional growth, except for the Associate Teacher Permit. The Child Development Associate Teacher Permit can only be renewed once (after 5 years), and permit holders must progress to a Child Development Teacher Permit within 10 years or lose their permit. This is the only permit that restricts individuals to one renewal which means these individuals can work for a maximum of ten years as Associate Teachers and then must either meet requirements for a Teacher Permit, leave their position, or leave the field altogether. Child Development Associate Teachers provide important support in programs including providing nurturing relationships and safe, stable,

developmental enriching experiences for young children. Many providers with an Associate Teacher Permit are not seeking a higher position and the current Associate Teacher Permit renewal requirement forces a change they may not be seeking. This can result in the loss of experienced and valuable staff. To address this, AB 1930 (Reyes) requires that the CTC authorize Child Development Associate Permit holders to renew their permits without a limitation on the number of renewals if the permit holder completes professional development and early childhood education unit requirements.

Justification

Access to ECE programs is critical to Los Angeles County families and one of the most essential components for children in these programs is qualified, experienced, and caring adults. Associate Teachers provide important support and care for children in ECE programs. It is recommended that Los Angeles County support requests by Head Start California, EveryChild California, and First 5 San Bernardino to support AB 1930 which states, “on or before April 30, 2025, require the CTC to, by rule or regulation, authorize a holder of a Child Development Associate Teacher Permit to renew their permit without a limitation on the number of renewals if the permit holder completes specified hours of professional growth activities, as provided.”⁸ This bill would support providers' ability to retain experienced and valuable staff to serve children.

Recommended Pursuit of Position – Support

The Policy Roundtable, with input from the Joint Committee on Legislation, recommends a position of support in the following areas to improve the ECE system:

- 1) Award and distribute ECE spaces appropriated in the 2023-24 budget by June 30, 2024 and include a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27
- 2) Include in the state's Child Care Development Fund Plan Federal FY 2025-27 an alternative rate methodology based on the true cost of care by the July 1, 2024 submission
- 3) Require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit renewal restriction by April 30, 2025

County Legislative Policy

These positions are consistent with the following Los Angeles County 2023-24 State Legislative Agenda:

1.3 Child Development and Early Care and Education

1. Support efforts to enhance the quality of ECE that set high standards for all services and program types, and address the needs of all children including those with disabilities and other special needs, and their families.
3. Support efforts to develop and sustain a well-qualified and highly skilled professional workforce prepared to serve the cultural and linguistically diverse child and family populations of Los Angeles County.
5. Support efforts to adequately fund high quality ECE services for all children from low- and moderate-income families.
6. Support efforts that streamline the administrative processes utilized by the California Department of Education and Social Services to expand access for low-income families,

⁸ AB-1930 Teaching Credentials: Child Development Associate Teacher Permit: Renewal (2023-2024), California Legislative Information. March 25, 2024
https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB1930

ensure continuity of care, and promote flexible use of ECE funding to meet the needs of families.

8. Support efforts to ensure that vulnerable children and their families have access to consistent, uninterrupted subsidized ECE services.
13. Support proposals that provide state funding to increase affordable child care options and increase the state's ECE reimbursement rate to a level that covers the true cost of care for young children.

Supporting Materials

The recommended pursuit of position is consistent with positions adopted by the following local and statewide entities:

1. Subsidy Spaces and Alternative Methodology Advocacy Letter, Early Care and Education Coalition. March 20, 2024 (attached)
2. Child Care and Development Fund State Plan Advocacy Comments, Child Care Law Center. March 6, 2024
3. Alternative Methodology Advocacy Letter, Child Care Providers United. March 1, 2024 (attached)
4. AB 1930 (Reyes) Support Letter, EveryChild California. February 29, 2024 (attached)
5. AB 1930 (Reyes) Support Letter, First 5 San Bernardino. March 8, 2024 (attached)
6. AB 1930 (Reyes) Support Letter, Head Start California. January 31, 2024 (attached)

Additional sources:

- \$122 Billion: The Growing Annual Cost of the Infant-Toddler Child Care Crisis. (2023). Council for a Strong America. March 23, 2024 <https://www.strongnation.org/articles/2038-122-billion-the-growing-annual-cost-of-the-infant-toddler-child-care-crisis>
- AB-1930 Teaching Credentials: Child Development Associate Teacher Permit: Renewal (2023-2024), California Legislative Information, March 25, 2024 https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB1930
- California Loses Nearly \$70 Billion Annually Through Tax Breaks. California Budget and Policy Center. April 2022 <https://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/california-loses-nearly-70-billion-annually-through-tax-breaks/>
- Child Care Portfolio. (2023). California Child Care Resource and Referral Network. March 2024 https://rrnetwork.org/research/child_care_portfolio
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March 1, 2024

Child Care Providers United (CCPU) is the statewide union representing licensed family child care providers and license-exempt family, friends, and neighbor providers. Our members provide safe, nurturing, and developmentally-appropriate care to the children of thousands of working families in California.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input regarding the draft Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for California, federal fiscal years 2025 to 2027 (State Plan) that was released to the public on February 1, 2024.

Our comments are based on our experience listening to and representing family child care providers, our work with major stakeholders and researchers, and our analysis of applicable state and federal law. In general, our recommendations align with those from the Child Care Law Center generally and on Sections 3 and 4 as referenced below.

On June 30, 2024, we reached a historic two-year agreement (“Agreement”) with the state that paves the way for a more equitable child care program. The Agreement includes the first retirement fund for licensed family child care providers and funds the CCPU Workers Health Care Fund and the CCPU Training Fund. Child care providers also are paid based on a child’s enrollment for the maximum authorized hours of care rather than attendance for the next two years, improves rate categories for part-time and full-time care, strengthens payment timeliness, and additional one-time stipends.¹

Perhaps most momentous, the Agreement also charts a course to reform child care payments to be based on the full cost of care by 2025. In the Agreement, the state commits to using an “alternative methodology,” employing a “cost estimation model” to develop a single rate structure for child care subsidy payment rates.² This alternative methodology will be informed by the full cost it takes for child care providers to provide care rather than

¹ <https://childcareprovidersunited.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/MOU-State.CCPU-20230913-20250701.pdf> (viewed last 3/1/24).

² Ibid.

by the regional market survey based on the amounts child care providers charge to parents. Shifting to use of an alternative methodology will help ensure child care providers' subsidy payment rates reach the levels necessary to cover essential business and living expenses, a policy that is long overdue. Child care providers also receive a 20% average increase from January 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 in their child care subsidy rate.³

These transformative policies promote stability for families, support children's healthy development, and help child care providers keep their doors open and care for their own families.

Despite these achievements, considerable work and investment still lies ahead. Data from the 2020 California Early Care and Education Workforce Study and Prenatal to 5 Fiscal Strategies survey conducted Fall 2023 provides deep insights into the experience of child care providers. Family child care providers earn very little from their work, as "almost 75% of providers don't pay themselves a salary" at all, and of those who do "the average salary is less than \$30,000 a year," or between \$7-10 per hour based on the reported 52-64 hour work week.⁴ The Workforce study also revealed that about one-third of family child care providers require at least one type of public assistance.⁵ This data only begins to explain reasons for California's child care supply crisis, where, as of 2021, only one in four children of working parents have licensed child care as an option for them.⁶

Furthermore, most family child care providers in California are Black, Latine, and immigrant women. In 2020, 98% of California's child care workforce were women and more than a third were multilingual. Additionally, "family child care providers are more likely to be women of color or immigrant women than the center-based workforce." California's diverse workforce of women closely mirrors the diversity of California's children.⁷ These women nurture a

³ The supplemental rate increases are also referred to as a cost of care plus rate. See Child Care Providers United, Child Care Providers United Contract, *supra* note 4 at 15 ("Beginning January 1, 2024, and upon full ratification of this agreement, through the duration of this agreement, all represented family child care providers shall receive a once per month per child served who is enrolled in subsidized child care cost of care plus rate as specified in the below chart...providers shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Regional Market Rate (RMR) ceilings as established In Welfare and Institutions Code Section 10374.5").

⁴

<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CalWORKs/CCT/CCDD/RQAP%20December%2012%202023%20ppt%200508.pdf> (last viewed 3/1/24)

⁵ Anna Powell, Raúl Chávez, Lea J.E. Austin, Elena Montoya, Yoonjeon Kim, & Abby Copeman Petig, U.C. Berkeley Ctr. Study Child Care Emp., "The Forgotten Ones"—The Economic Well-Being of Early Educators During COVID-19 (Feb. 16, 2022), <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/publications/brief/the-forgotten-ones-the-economic-well-being-of-early-educators-during-covid-19/>.

⁶ KidsData, Availability of Child Care For Working Families, <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/99/child-care-availability/pie#fmt=262&loc=2&tf=141&ch=1247,1248&pdist=171> (last visited Feb. 16, 2024) (citing 2021 data from the California Child Care Resource and Referral Network).

⁷ Elena Montoya, Lea J.E. Austin, Anna Powell, Yoonjeon Kim, Abby Copeman Petig, & Wanzi Muruvi, U.C. Berkeley Ctr. Study Child Care Emp., Early Educator Compensation Findings From the 2020 California early Care and Education Workforce Study 13 (2022), <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/CSCCE-Early-Educator-Compensation-California.pdf>.

child's home language and culture and honor our vibrant communities. California must prioritize the well-being of our children and those who care for them. Now is the time to heal some of the harm to families caused by generations of systemic and endemic inequality, and work to build long-term solutions.

We encourage CDSS to create a forward-looking State Plan that meets the needs of California's children, families, and child care providers. California not only has the opportunity to fully comply with the federal Child Care Development Block Grant Act ("CCDBG"), but the state can also implement an alternative methodology that ensures child care providers are paid a fair and just wage; integrate and align publicly-funded child care programs with other public benefits programs to truly meet the needs of "the whole child and whole family;" and make all public information and opportunities for public engagement fully accessible by implementing language justice and inclusion best practices.⁸

CCPU joins our partners in urging CDSS to follow the recommendation of the Administration for Children and Families ("ACF"), to approach the development of the State Plan "in a cross-cutting integrated manner."⁹ While the draft State Plan includes constructive ideas in several areas, we concur with the assessment by the Child Care Law Center that it largely reports on the current provision of services rather than proposing how CDSS plans to improve the availability of child care, coordinate services, and compensate providers and the early childhood education workforce needed to ensure they can support their families and address California families' needs. We therefore also call upon CDSS to seize this opportunity to strengthen California's existing child care program by creating a State Plan that will move us toward an anti-racist, equitable, and enriching child care program that serves all of California's families who most need affordable child care.

There are a few sections upon which we feel additional feedback is necessary, which is provided below.

Overall: Pay Child Care Providers a Fair and Just Wage

We continue to urge CDSS, CDE, and the Governor to work in good faith with CCPU to create a robust alternative methodology that pays child care providers a fair and just wage based on their full cost of caring for children, and fully implement the alternative

⁸ "The mission of the Child Care and Development Division (CCDD) is to build, strengthen, and maintain an equitable, comprehensive, quality, and affordable child care and development system for the children and families in our state; to integrate child care with other CDSS programs and services that serve the whole child and whole family; to address social determinants of health and adverse childhood experiences which significantly impact long-term outcomes for children; and to provide vital supports to the child care and development workforce and programs for children to have access to equitable and stable child care and development opportunities." Cal. Dep't Soc. Servs., Child Care and Development Division, California Department of Social Services <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-and-development> (last visited Feb. 23, 2024) (emphasis added).

⁹ Cal. Dep't Soc. Servs., DRAFT CCDF State Plan FFY 2025-27 (for public comment)(PDF).

methodology with a single-rate structure as soon as possible. We also encourage the Department to ensure that the public has an opportunity to provide comment via multiple methods on related substantive changes to the draft State Plan before submission and on any necessary State Plan amendments to implement the new single rate structure thereafter.

Successful implementation of the alternative methodology also requires the state adopting key policies to meet its CCDF equal access requirements. To maximize parental choice and build supply, the State Plan preprint highlights, “Lead Agencies are required to use CCDF payment practices that reflect generally accepted payment practices of child care providers who serve children who do not receive CCDF-funded assistance.”¹⁰ Accordingly, we urge the state to permanently pay child care providers based on enrollment for the maximum authorized hours of care rather than attendance; pay child care providers prospectively before services are rendered; and determine subsidy payment rates independently from what providers charge to families without subsidies.

Paying providers based on the full cost of care and implementing the corresponding policies are essential and long overdue. This creates stability for child care providers and an environment where children can thrive. By adopting these proposals California will be better positioned to meet its equal access requirements under section 98.45 of the CCDF regulations.

Section 4: Ensure Equal Access for Children in Families with Low Incomes

4.2 Assess Market Rates and Analyze the Cost of Child Care

While we recognize that certain details about the alternative methodology are reliant on bargaining between CCPU and CDSS which will not begin until after the state plan is submitted, we strongly urge CDSS to include much more detail in their July 1 submission than what is offered in this current draft.

Last year, CDSS was among the lead agencies who received a letter from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) signed by Dr. Ruth Friedman, Director of the Office of Child Care outlining flexibilities and associated requirements for Lead Agencies interested in pursuing a cost-based alternative methodology for the FFY 2025-2027 CCDF Plan Cycle. In line with the latest CCDF state plan preprint published by ACF on January 22, 2024, this letter stipulates that CDSS is obligated to include details about the status of the alternative methodology within their July 1, 2024 submission including:

- Dates when the alternative methodology activities will be conducted,
- Any completed steps to date
- Anticipated date of completion
- Expected date new rates will be in effect using the alternative methodology

¹⁰ Cal. Dep’t Soc. Servs., DRAFT CCDF State Plan FFY 2025-27 (for public comment)(PDF).

The current state plan draft includes none of these. In order to enable robust public engagement and comply with the requirements of the ACF letter and the format of the latest CCDF state plan preprint, we believe CDSS must include as much detail as possible about each of these elements in their July 1 submission.

To this end, in response to section 4.2.2(d), CDSS should also include more information about the Rate & Quality Systems Joint Labor Management Committee and the tasks given to it under Section 7.3 of the MOU between CDSS and CCPU. Elsewhere we also urge CDSS to include some information about the agreement the JLMC will reach as to the definitions of elements of the base rate and any enhanced rates. Finally, in Section 4.2.6 we urge CDSS to include an estimated date for publication of the final report in accordance with the timeline specified in our contract and planned public engagement process on rate given our extended timeline.

4.3 Establish Adequate Payment Rates

We anticipate that by moving to an alternative methodology, child care providers will be paid significantly higher subsidy payment rates. With higher pay, parents with subsidies will have more child care choices and providers will be better able to support themselves and keep their doors open for families. We urge the state to come to a robust agreement with CCPU that implements the alternative methodology and pays child care providers, including family, friend, and neighbor providers exempt from licensing requirements, the full cost of care as soon as possible.

In addition, there should be mention in the State Plan of the intention to “ensure equal access to child care for eligible children and families and increase payment rates adjusted for inflation”¹¹

Finally, the plan should detail the current adjustment factors and include some information about the enhanced rates agreed to within the JLMC including for non-traditional hours, dual language learners, and child transportation.

4.4 Implement Generally Accepted Payment Practices and Ensure Timeliness of Payments

The Act requires that payment practices “reflect generally accepted payment practices of child care providers...who do not receive assistance.”¹² The CCDF regulations provide that, “[t]o the extent practicable, enrollment and eligibility policies support the fixed costs of providing child care services by delinking provider payment rates from an eligible child's occasional absence[s].”¹³

Fair, just payment rates must coincide with necessary policy changes such as permanently

¹¹ Per ACF letter “OCC Flexibilities on Alternative Methodology Timing”

¹² Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (“CCDBG”), § 658A, 658E (c)(2)(S)(i), 42 U.S.C. § 9857, 9858c (c)(2)(S)(i) (2021).

¹³ 42 C.F.R. § 98.15 (a)(8).

paying child care providers based on enrollment for the maximum authorized hours of care rather than attendance; paying child care providers prospectively before services are rendered; and separating child care subsidy rates from what parents without subsidies pay.¹⁴ This last practice is critical to achieve the full promise of the transition to reimbursement based on the cost of care, without impacting families paying out of pocket, particularly the hundreds of thousands eligible for subsidized child care but currently unable to access.

California pays all child care providers after their services are rendered and currently pays providers based on enrollment regardless of attendance until June 30, 2025.¹⁵ Most, if not all, child care providers paid with private funds from families would not characterize a child care arrangement where the parent pays the child care provider 21 days after their attendance records are complete and only for care that matched the exact days and hours during which the child was with the child care provider as a “generally accepted payment practice.” Like providers who are paid with private funds, child care providers paid with subsidies have fixed costs such as rent, staff overhead, utilities, etc.

To strengthen stability for child care providers and equal access for families, we encourage the state to permanently adopt the above policies.

4.5 Establish Affordable Co-Payments

The significant reduction in family fees has taken a tremendous financial burden off of working families. CCPU was proud to partner closely with Parent Voices and others to advocate for this nation-leading, comprehensive policy which guarantees:

- No family earning below 75 percent of State Median Income (“SMI”) pays co-payments
- Co-payments do not exceed one percent of a family’s monthly income,

¹⁴ The policy of paying providers the maximum authorized hours of care is a permitted and encouraged practice. See 45 C.F.R. § 98.45 (l)(2) (states must demonstrate, to the extent practicable, how it supports the cost of providing services including the option to pay by children’s enrollment rather than attendance); Improving Child Care Access, Affordability, and Stability in the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), 88 Fed. Reg. 45052 § 98.45 (m)(2)(i)-(ii) (NPRM to make payment based children’s enrollment the default); see also Rate and Quality Workgroup. Additionally, the policy to pay providers before services are rendered is also supported. See 45 C.F.R. § 98.45 (l)(1)(i) (states must demonstrate, how it ensures payment timeliness to providers including the option to pay prospectively); 88 Fed. Reg. 45052 § 98.45 (m)(2)(i)-(ii) (NPRM to make states pay providers prospectively the default practice); see also Rate and Quality Workgroup. Paying providers who care for children with subsidies independently from providers who care do not is also permitted and encouraged practice. See 45 C.F.R. § 98.45 (l)(3) (states must demonstrate how their payment practices reflect generally-accepted practices for providers who do not care for children with subsidies); Improving Child Care Access, Affordability, and Stability in the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), 88 Fed. Reg. 45052 § 98.45 (g) (NPRM to permit states to pay providers who care for children with subsidies more than providers who do not); see also Rate and Quality Workgroup; Cal. Assemb. Blue Ribbon Comm’n on Early Childhood Education (“Establish reimbursement rates sufficient to ensure competitive salaries and benefit packages including health, paid time off, retirement, and other compensation”).

¹⁵ S. B. 140 §§ 3(d) & 18(a).

- Child care providers absorb no reduction in pay,
- The number of child care contracted spaces and vouchers are not reduced because of a reduction in the collection of co-payments, and
- Family fees accrued but uncollected prior to October 1, 2023 may be forgiven and not collected.¹⁶

We appreciate that the State Plan outlines the recent improvement in family fees and we encourage CDSS to include the full description of the policy above to inform ACF, other states, and the public of this progressive child care law.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide input on behalf of CCPU-represented providers across all family child care settings in California.



Alexa Frankenberg
Executive Director, CCPU

¹⁶ 45 C.F.R 98.44 (b); Welf. & Inst. Code § 10290.



January 31, 2024

The Honorable Eloise Gómez Reyes
Assembly Majority Leader Emerita
1021 O Street, Room 4510
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 1930 (Reyes)
Location: Introduced
Position: Support/Co-Sponsor

Dear Assemblymember Reyes:

On behalf of Head Start California, thank you for introducing AB 1930 which will direct the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the restriction on renewal of the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit so that individuals who choose to do so, can renew the permit and remain in their Associate Teacher positions. This measure will improve access to early childhood programs and support individuals in their positions providing instructional support to our youngest learners. Head Start California is pleased to support and co-sponsor AB 1930.

Head Start California represents Head Start grantees in California, serving over 100,000 children annually and their families, employing over 25,000 teachers and staff statewide. Collectively, they operate over 1,700 sites across California and serve the most at-risk children and families with early learning and wrap around services.

High-quality Early Learning and Care (ECE) keeps children safe and healthy and sets the foundation upon which learning is built. These learning environments help children develop social and emotional skills they will need for success in school and their lives outside of school.

The Child Development Associate Teacher permit is issued for five years and is only renewable once by completing at least 15 semester units towards the Child Development Teacher Permit. Associate Teacher Permit holders must meet the requirements for the Child Development Teacher Permit during that time period. If these requirements are not met, the Associate Teacher permit expires, and therefore, qualified Associate Teacher permit holders in programs who could be providing instructional support at an Associate Teacher level, are not able to maintain their associate teacher permit positions.

Head Start California supports and is pleased to co-sponsor AB 1930 for several reasons:

- Access to ECE programs is critical to California families. And one of the most essential components for children in these programs is qualified, experienced caring adults.
- Associate Teachers provide important support in classrooms and wonderful care for children. Associate Teacher Permit Holders may supervise children alone and may contribute to the development of curriculum and instruction.
- This bill would, on or before April 30, 2025, require the commission to, by rule or regulation, authorize a holder of a Child Development Associate Teacher Permit to

renew their permit without a limitation on the number of renewals if the permitholder completes specified hours of professional growth activities, as provided.

- This bill would support providers ability to retain experienced and valuable staff to serve children.

For these reasons, we strongly support AB 1930 and are pleased to be a co-sponsor on this important measure.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue and for authoring AB1930. If we can be of further assistance, please contact me at melanee@headstartca.org or Khieem Jackson, Legislative Advocate for Head Start California at khieem@ballfrostgroup.com

Sincerely,



Melanee Cottrill
Executive Director
Head Start California



March 8, 2024

Commissioners

Elliot Weinstein,
M.D.
Chair

Diana Alexander
Vice-Chair

Ted Alejandre
Commissioner

Joe Baca, Jr.
Commissioner

Dr. Gwen Dowdy-
Rodgers
Commissioner

Joshua Dugas
Commissioner

Gary Ovitt
Commissioner

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi
Chair, Assembly Education Committee
1021 O Street, Room 159
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 1930 (Reyes)
Location: Assembly Committee
Position: Support

Dear Assemblymember Muratsuchi:

On behalf of the Children and Families Commission - First 5 San Bernardino, I write in support of AB1930 (Reyes) which will direct the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the restriction on renewal of the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit so that individuals who choose to do so, can renew the permit and remain in their Associate Teacher positions. This measure will improve access to early childhood programs and support individuals in their positions providing instructional support to our youngest learners.

First 5 San Bernardino is a leader in Quality Start San Bernardino (QSSB) which focuses on raising the quality of early learning programs in the county by setting standards for quality, rating programs using these standards, and providing training and support to early childhood educators, making quality a reality. We help early learning educators, parents and caregivers, and communities give children a quality start. Child Development Associate Teachers are an important part of this workforce and in the case of renewals, tend to be our most committed and experienced asset. Through QSSB and our childcare workforce, we can track and see improvements in quality early education through nearly 300 providers serving more than 20,000 children.

The Child Development Associate Teacher permit is issued for five years and is only renewable once by completing at least 15 semester units towards the Child Development Teacher Permit. Associate Teacher Permit holders must meet the requirements for the Child Development Teacher Permit during that time period. If these requirements are not met, the Associate Teacher permit expires, and therefore, qualified Associate Teacher permit holders in programs who could be providing instructional support at an Associate Teacher level, are not able to maintain their associate teacher permit positions.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION FOR SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

735 EAST CARNEGIE DRIVE, SUITE 150, SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA 92408

909.386.7706 FAX 909.386.7703 FIRST5SANBERNARDINO.ORG

We support and are pleased to co-sponsor AB 1930 for several reasons:

- Access to ECE programs is critical to California families. And one of the most essential components for children in these programs is qualified, experienced caring adults.
- Associate Teachers provide important support in classrooms and wonderful care for children. Associate Teacher Permit Holders may supervise children alone and may contribute to the development of curriculum and instruction.
- This bill would, on or before April 30, 2025, require the commission to, by rule or regulation, authorize a holder of a Child Development Associate Teacher Permit to renew their permit without a limitation on the number of renewals if the permit holder completes specified hours of professional growth activities, as provided.
- This bill would support providers' ability to retain experienced and valuable staff to serve children.

For these reasons, I strongly support AB 1930. If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at kscott@cfc.sbcounty.gov or (909) 252-4252.

Sincerely,



Karen E. Scott
Executive Director
First 5 San Bernardino



EveryChild
CALIFORNIA

Association of Leaders
Advancing Early Learning

February 29, 2024

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi
Chair, Assembly Education Committee
1021 O Street, Room 159
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 1930 (Reyes)
Location: Assembly Education Committee
Position: Support

Dear Assemblymember Muratsuchi:

On behalf of EveryChild California and ECE Voices, I write in support of AB1930 (Reyes), which will direct the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the restriction on the renewal of the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit so that individuals who choose to do so can renew the permit and remain in their Associate Teacher positions. This measure will improve access to early childhood programs and support individuals in their positions, providing instructional support to our youngest learners.

The Child Development Associate Teacher permit is issued for five years and is only renewable once by completing at least 15-semester units towards the Child Development Teacher Permit. Associate Teacher Permit holders must meet the requirements for the Child Development Teacher Permit during that time period. If these requirements are not met, the Associate Teacher permit expires, and therefore, qualified Associate Teacher permit holders in programs who could be providing instructional support at an Associate Teacher level are not able to maintain their Associate Teacher permit positions.

We support and are pleased to co-sponsor AB 1930 for several reasons:

Access to ECE programs is critical to California families. One of the most essential components for children in these programs is qualified, experienced, caring adults.

Associate Teachers provide essential support in classrooms and wonderful care for children. Associate Teacher Permit Holders may supervise children alone and contribute to curriculum and instruction development.

This bill would, on or before April 30, 2025, require the commission to, by rule or regulation, authorize a holder of a Child Development Associate Teacher Permit to renew their permit without a limitation on the number of renewals if the permit holder completes specified hours of professional growth activities, as provided.

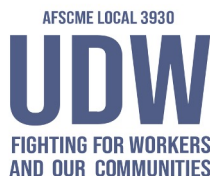
This bill would support providers' ability to retain experienced and valuable staff to serve children.

For these reasons, I strongly support AB 1930. If I can further assist, please contact me at nina@everychildca.org or 916-443-5919.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nina Buthee".

Nina Buthee
Executive Director
EveryChild California



March 20, 2024

Governor Newsom
State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tony Thurmond
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
1430 N Street, Suite 5000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Pro Temp McGuire
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Speaker Rivas
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Early Care and Education (ECE) Coalition appreciates the Administration's and Legislature's long-term vision and continued support of ECE via the sustained commitment to provide an additional 200,000 ECE spaces and move to a single reimbursement rate structure. While we understand that the State is facing difficult decisions to address the budget deficit that will likely persist for the next few years, **we urge you to consider the [revenue options recommended by the California Budget and Policy Center](#) and** prioritize California's youngest children and their families by maintaining your promise to:

- **Award and distribute the ECE spaces appropriated in the 2023-24 budget by June 30, 2024.** Unfortunately, the Administration is proposing cuts to desperately needed spaces by not releasing the funds allocated in the budget for the current fiscal year. We request a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 space commitment by 2026-27. Our families need affordable ECE programs today!
- **Develop and implement an alternative rate methodology in collaboration with providers, families, and advocates by June 30, 2024.** We request a transparent and collaborative process to ensure the methodology meets the needs of families and all providers.

It is critical to recognize that ECE programs support two generations - parents and children - while simultaneously spurring economic development and growth for our state. By continuing to offer families free and/or reduced-cost child care even during an economic downturn, we exemplify why California is so successful - because we support children and families. We cannot balance the state's budget on the backs of Black, Latinx, Asian Pacific Islander, Indigenous, and immigrant families who are already struggling to make ends meet.

ECE programs offer families safe, stable, and supportive environments where children achieve essential developmental milestones such as following one-step directions, drawing a circle, and counting to ten. Moreover, ECE programs allow guardians to participate in work, professional development, or educational programs, ultimately fostering family connectedness and security.

Unfortunately, California's ECE field continues to struggle to stay afloat. The increase in reimbursement rates in the 2023-24 budget and the promise of an alternative rate methodology have provided immediate relief to the ECE field and workforce; however, the reality of decades of under-investment has taken its toll on providers and families. Countless reports, including the [Master Plan for Early Care and Education](#) and the [Assembly's Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Care and Education](#), have highlighted policy recommendations to build a robust ECE system that meets the needs of children, families, and our workforce. A healthy ECE system should include long-term funding commitments for facility infrastructure, workforce development, rate increases, and ECE spaces.

Thousands of families are in desperate need of early care and education programs. Staying focused on the commitments to providing spaces, addressing ECE providers' rates, and committing to the system's long-term stability ensures California remains an international economic leader.

Sincerely,

Members of the ECE Coalition

Cc:

Joe Stephenshaw, Director, Department of Finance

Kim Johnson, Director, Department of Social Services

Senator Scott D. Wiener, Chair, Senate Budget Committee; Chair Legislative Women's Caucus

Senator Caroline Menjivar, Chair, Senate Budget Sub. 3 Committee on Health and Human Services

Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee

Assemblymember Dr. Corey Jackson, Chair, Assembly Budget Sub. 2 Committee on Human Services

Alternative Rate Methodology Timeline

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 2023-24 | The Department of Social Services (DSS) contracted with P-5 to help develop the alternative rate methodology based on the actual cost of providing care. |
| | DSS has re-engaged the Rate Reform and Quality Group to assist in developing the alternative rate methodology. |
| | February 15 th , DSS to release the data to be included in the alternative methodology formula. |
| 2024-25 | July 1 st , DSS must provide the Office of Child Care with an updated state plan that includes the alternative rate methodology |
| | October 1 st Child Care Provider Union (CCPU) can re-open negotiations with the administration to align with the approved alternative rate methodology. |
| | The new alternative rate methodology will need to be adopted in the 2025-26 budget. |

Attachment E - Infant Toddler Blueprint



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

MUNTU DAVIS, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer

PRIYA BATRA, M.D., M.S.
Deputy Director for Health Promotion

DEBRA COLMAN, M.S.W.
Director, Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education

Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education
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www.childcare.lacounty.org



BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS

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Fifth District

March 1st, 2024

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

SUBJECT: **BLUEPRINT IDENTIFYING IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM EFFORTS TO FORTIFY THE INFANT AND TODDLER CARE SYSTEM (ITEM 36, BOARD AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2023)**

This report is in response to the September 12, 2023 motion by the Board of Supervisors instructing the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) in the Department of Public Health (Public Health), in collaboration with the Department for Economic Opportunity (DEO) and in partnership with early care and education stakeholders, to develop a blueprint identifying immediate and long-term efforts to fortify the infant and toddler child care system.

The period between birth and age three is critical for child development. During this time, 80 percent of brain development occurs and the foundations for lifelong health, well-being, and success during a child's life are established. The quality of experiences and relationships in the first three years of life has a deep and lasting impact on how the brain develops. Although a parent is a child's first and most important teacher, families often need additional support from early care and education (ECE) providers during these critical years. According to the 2022 Los Angeles County ECE Needs Assessment, Los Angeles County is home to more than 484,000 infants and toddlers and only has licensed capacity through centers and family child care homes to serve 4 percent of children under 24 months. The lack of access to affordable, quality infant and toddler ECE in Los Angeles County has been a crisis for decades. Los Angeles County's low capacity to serve infants and toddlers is caused by multiple interlinked systemic factors. The strain on these factors is increasing dramatically, and if not addressed, may result in infant/toddler ECE program closures. The ECE Infant/Toddler Blueprint (Blueprint) provides a roadmap to fortify Los Angeles County's infant/toddler child care system.

To inform the Blueprint, OAECE conducted over 50 meetings and interviews with more than 300 stakeholders including parents, ECE providers, the Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee, the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission, Resource and Referral agencies, Los Angeles County Office of Education, institutions of higher education, First 5 LA, First 5 Orange County, California Community Foundation, Early Edge California, and the Service Employees International Union Local 99. OAECE also consulted with cities such as Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Santa Monica; school districts; and County Departments including Economic Opportunity, Mental Health, Parks and Recreation, and Public Health. Extensive research from national, state, and local reports also informed the development of the recommendations. The Blueprint addresses critical challenges in the infant and toddler ECE system and the recommendations are categorized into five priority areas:

1. Capacity and Infrastructure
2. Access to Affordable Care
3. Program Operations
4. Workforce Compensation
5. Workforce Pathways and Qualifications

The recommendations consist of programmatic, administrative, and legislative strategies to create a thriving, equitable, and sustainable infant/toddler ECE system, as well as short-term and long-term strategies at a County and State level.

Priority Area 1: Capacity and Infrastructure

Issue: There are not enough licensed early care and education spaces available for infants and toddlers.

Goal: Increase licensed capacity of early care and education programs to serve infants and toddlers.

As a system that grew organically over time, early care and education (ECE) settings in which infants and toddlers are cared for vary in structure and funding mechanisms. ECE programs operate in both centers and homes. A child development center, which can be located on a school district campus or in the community, has multiple classrooms and serves an average of 100 children. Home-based infant/toddler child care is provided by either a Family Child Care Home for up to 14 children or by a Family, Friend, or Neighbor provider who is typically caring for one to three children. Centers and family child care homes are licensed and must adhere to California Community Care Licensing regulations, while Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers receiving a state subsidy are license-exempt. According to the California Resource and Referral Network, Los Angeles County has 9,807 licensed ECE spaces for children birth through 23 months and only 7 percent of working parents have access to licensed care for their infants and toddlers.

Recommendation 1.1: Establish a grant program to support start-up costs and facility development expenses for family child care homes and center-based care that serve infants and toddlers.

Los Angeles County is in need of ECE services for infants and toddlers and start-up costs to open a new child care program typically ranges from \$10,000 to \$50,000. It can be difficult to raise the capital needed to start a new ECE center or family child care home. To reduce barriers to opening new programs, Napa County and Kansas created stipend and grant initiatives that fund new ECE program start-up costs such as licensing fees, staffing, training, furniture, equipment, and marketing expenses. The City of Santa Monica has also taken steps to expand licensed infant/toddler ECE capacity in its city by providing grants to ECE programs for land acquisition, planning, design, and construction. With support from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the OAECE is already providing facility development fee

waivers to programs establishing or expanding licensed infant/toddler ECE in unincorporated Los Angeles County. Establishing a comprehensive grant initiative to support ECE start-up costs will reduce barriers in launching new ECE programs and expand capacity to serve infants and toddlers.

Level: County/State

Lever: Programmatic

Length of Time: Short-Term

Recommendation 1.2: Invest in a study to identify regulatory changes for family child care homes to sustainably operate a predominantly infant and toddler child care program model.

ECE programs serving infants and toddlers are experiencing declining enrollment of preschool-age children due to the state-wide expansion of transitional kindergarten (TK). As TK expands, it is anticipated that family child care homes will likely serve primarily infants and toddlers in their programs. The financial business model for serving predominantly infants and toddlers is not sustainable given operational costs often exceed what low to moderate income families can afford. In addition, reimbursement rates for ECE providers accepting government subsidies for child care are far below the true cost of care. A study is needed to identify potential regulatory changes that could improve the business model of family child care homes to serve mostly infants and toddlers while providing a safe, healthy, and developmentally supportive environment. During a time of transformation in the ECE system, investing in a study and partnering with California's Community Care Licensing Division on how to revise infant toddler program models and regulations is imperative to sustaining the child care infrastructure.

Level: State

Lever: Programmatic/Administrative

Length of Time: Long-Term

Recommendation 1.3: Increase partnerships between Local Education Agencies and early care and education programs to repurpose school district facility space for use by infant/toddler child care programs.

Enrollment in California public schools has significantly declined since 2007 and it is projected to fall more steeply over the next decade. For example, in the past 20 years Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) K-12 student enrollment decreased by 58 percent and LAUSD may experience another 30 percent decline in student enrollment within the next 10 years.¹ Declining enrollment creates large budget shortfalls for school districts and to close these budget gaps many districts are consolidating or shuttering schools. In 2019, Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) approved to shutter three elementary schools and it currently is only using 73 percent of its facility capacity. Even with the expansion of TK, it is projected that PUSD's facility utilization will drop to 69 percent by 2030.² Additionally, when considering racial disparities and equity, Black students are "more likely to experience school closure than any other racial subgroup."³ Two school districts have opted to repurpose their underutilized/unused facility space instead of consolidating or shuttering facilities. LACOE is partnering with Pomona Unified School District and Garvey School District to renovate some of these Districts' underutilized/unused facility space to provide Early Head Start programs thereby serving more infants and toddlers. Repurposing underused/unused local education agency⁴ facility space for infant/toddler ECE programs helps expand capacity and provides opportunities to create alignment between systems that support children and families.

Level: School Districts

Lever: Programmatic

Length of Time: Long-Term

¹ LAUSD Facing 30% Drop in Student Enrollment in a Decade. (2022). CBS News. Retrieved from <https://www.cbsnews.com/losangeles/news/lausd-facing-30-drop-student-enrollment-decade/>

² Facilities Master Plan. (2023) Pasadena Unified School District. Retrieved from <https://www.pusdplan.org/chapters/summary>.

³ Hahnel, C., & Pearman, F. A., II. Declining Enrollment, School Closures, and Equity Considerations. (2023). Policy Analysis for California Education. Retrieved from <https://edpolicyinca.org/publications/declining-enrollment-school-closures-and-equity-considerations>

⁴ California Education Code § 56026.3 defines local education agency as school district, a county office of education, a nonprofit charter school participating as a member of a special education local plan area, or a special education local plan area.

Recommendation 1.4: Reassess California Community Care Licensing square footage regulations for licensed infant/toddler early care and education centers.

In Los Angeles County many ECE programs serving infants and toddlers are at capacity and have long wait lists for enrollment. For example, as recent as December 2023, Rancho Los Amigos KinderCare, a child development center operating on Los Angeles County property, has over 700 families on their wait list for infant/toddler child care. As of 2021, more than 14,000 Los Angeles County children ages birth to 36 months were on wait lists to enroll in infant/toddler ECE.⁵ In California, Community Care Licensing requires centers to have at least 75 square feet of outdoor space per child; 13 other states require less outdoor space. For example, Wyoming requires for outdoor space 35 square feet per child ages birth to 18 months, 50 square feet for each child 18 months to 24 months, and 75 square feet for each child over 24 months. Reassessing the square footage required for licensed infant/toddler ECE programs may identify that it is feasible to reduce the amount of outdoor square footage per child required for centers while maintaining a healthy, safe, and developmentally appropriate environment. A reduction in outdoor square footage could increase some programs' ability to serve more infants.

Level: State

Lever: Legislative

Length of Time: Long-Term

Recommendation 1.5: Require new housing development and commercial developers to either pay a fee that supports the creation of new infant and toddler child care facilities or include infant and toddler early care and education facility space in new development that can be leased at a reduced rate.

New development projects create an influx of new employees and families and generate an additional need for ECE facilities. The cities of Santa Monica and San Mateo require developers of new residential and workplace structures to pay either an "impact fee" or construct new ECE facility spaces. Funds generated by impact fees are used as grants and loans for ECE providers to repair, expand, and purchase property. Requiring housing and commercial developers to invest in child care facilities can mitigate additional strain on communities to meet the need for more infant/toddler ECE spaces.

Level: County-Unincorporated Areas

Lever: Administrative

Length of Time: Long-Term

Priority Area 2: Access to Affordable Care

Issue: Infant and toddler child care is difficult to locate and expensive for families.

Goal: Increase access to affordable infant and toddler early care and education for low-income to middle-income families.

In Los Angeles County, families often struggle with locating ECE services that have available spaces at an affordable rate. According to the 2022 Los Angeles County ECE Needs Assessment, the median annual tuition for infant child care is \$18,917 in a center-based setting and \$12,378 in a family child care home.⁶ The insufficient supply of ECE spaces and the high cost of infant/toddler child care has become a crucial workforce issue across all sectors and is particularly impacting working women. A recent study found that 46 percent of unemployed mothers who left the workforce cited the inability to find care for their children as the primary reason for not working.⁷ Los Angeles County is not alone in this infant/toddler ECE crisis. The estimated annual economic impact of the lack of infant/toddler care on California is \$17 Billion and \$122 Billion for the nation.⁸ At a more local level, First 5 Orange County

⁵ Child Care Needs Assessment Los Angeles County. (2022). Los Angeles County Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education. Retrieved from <https://childcare.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Child-Care-Needs-Assessment-Los-Angeles-County-FINAL-11.3.22.pdf>

⁶ Child Care Portfolio. (2023). California Child Care Resource and Referral Network. Retrieved from https://rrnetwork.org/research/child_care_portfolio

⁷ Waller, Jessica D'Argenio. (2022). U.S. Childcare Crisis: How the Pandemic Exposed a Deeper Issue. Motherly. Retrieved from <https://www.mother.ly/career-money/work-and-motherhood/us-childcare-crisis-pandemic/>

⁸ \$122 Billion: The Growing, Annual Cost of the Infant-Toddler Child Care Crisis. (2023). Council for a Strong America. Retrieved from <https://www.strongnation.org/articles/2038-122-billion-the-growing-annual-cost-of-the-infant-toddler-child-care-crisis>

commissioned a study⁹ regarding the economic impact of child care-related¹⁰ challenges on Orange County (home to 107,870 birth to two year olds) and its cities. The study found that the impact of child care-related challenges to Orange County's economy, families, and businesses totals \$4.3 billion lost annually in productivity and wages and \$372 million in tax revenue. While this level of data is not available for Los Angeles County and its cities, the research demonstrates the need for affordable high-quality child care that is accessible for families.

Recommendation 2.1: Launch a County-wide public awareness campaign to promote subsidized infant/toddler early care and education options for low-income families in under-resourced communities including a centralized family friendly website with a universal child care subsidy enrollment application.

Although there are subsidized child care options available for low-income families, the infant/toddler ECE system is complex and challenging to navigate. In California, there are a multitude of subsidized child care programs including Head Start, Early Head Start, California State Preschool Program, General Child Care, Alternative Payment Program, and CalWORKS. One of the challenges that families experience is that each program has different eligibility requirements and enrollment applications. According to a 2023 study conducted by the Los Angeles Education Partnership on infant/toddler child care, Los Angeles County parents report needing help navigating the complex ECE system. ECE subsidies are funded and administered by federal, state, and local governments, with each having unique regulations and requirements. As a result, the ECE subsidy system is often described as fragmented and confusing, making it difficult for parents to navigate.¹¹ Resource and Referral agencies are a critical support for families seeking child care, however, many parents are not aware of their existence and the availability of subsidized ECE services. Some communities have introduced "ECE hub websites" to simplify navigation, such as the Long Beach Early Learning Hub and South Carolina's First Five SC portal, which provide a one-stop resource for families to identify ECE options, learn about and apply for financial assistance, and other resources (e.g., food, housing). A centralized web-based information hub that intentionally and equitably streamlines search and application processes within the ECE system is needed. In 2024, OAECE, in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Justice Care and Opportunities Department, will partner with the Resource and Referral/Alternative Payment agencies, Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Office of Education, Los Angeles County Department of Social Services, and First 5 LA to collectively design a campaign to promote subsidized child care options in under-resourced communities with high incarceration rates. This strategy will also begin an exploration of how to develop a unified web-based portal that provides families with information about all subsidized infant/toddler ECE options. A County-wide campaign of this nature will be instrumental in increasing awareness among families about free and low-cost infant/toddler child care.

Level: County

Lever: Programmatic

Length of Time: Short-Term

Recommendation 2.2: Strengthen the capacity of key Los Angeles County departments and community staff who support parents of infants/toddlers on how to connect families to early care and education resources.

Multiple Los Angeles County departments (e.g., Departments of Children and Family Services, Economic Opportunity, Mental Health, Parks and Recreation, Social Services, Public Health, Probation, Library) provide direct support to families with young children, yet their staff lack common training and tools to direct parents to child care resources. It is important to leverage County departments to

⁹ Alva, T. and Walrod, W. Orange County Child Care Landscape Analysis Phase I & Phase 2. (2022) First 5 Orange County.

¹⁰ Child care in Orange County refers to serving children ages birth to five years old. Orange County is home to 107, 870 infants and toddlers (ages birth to two years old) and 79,313 preschool-age children (three to four year olds).

¹¹ Thai, B. (2018). An Evaluation of Early Childhood Education Programs: The Parents' Perspective of Quality Care. San Jose State University. Accessed from https://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1024&context=etd_dissertations

connect families with ECE services through fairs, information hubs at County sites families frequent, and by sharing resources directly with families. Various states have embraced a family centered coordination model to direct parents to necessary resources. For example, Georgia and Texas government program staff are trained by an “anchoring organization” to identify family needs and direct families to appropriate services such as child care resources. It is important to empower front-line Los Angeles County staff with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to support the infant/toddler ECE needs of families. The OAECE, in partnership with the Justice Care and Opportunities Department, will serve as an “anchoring organization” to train Los Angeles County and community staff who support parents in how to access infant/toddler child care. As part of the infant/toddler ECE navigation system, the Resource and Referral agencies, Los Angeles County Office of Education, and the Department of Social Services are essential partners in this strategy. Increasing County departments’ knowledge about infant/toddler child care resources is an essential mechanism to help parents access infant/toddler ECE services.

Level: County**Lever:** Programmatic**Length of Time:** Short-Term**Recommendation 2.3: Explore investment in a locally funded infant/toddler child care voucher program for low income to moderate income families in Los Angeles County.**

The rising price of tuition for infant/toddler ECE services means that affordable child care remains out of reach for many families. Infant child care in Los Angeles County can range from approximately \$12,000 to close to \$19,000 annually. A family of four in Los Angeles County earning the median income of \$117,850 does not qualify for any California subsidized infant/toddler ECE program. If a family earning the median income has two children under age four, they would pay 30 percent of their income towards child care, which would be the second highest household expense, after housing (34 percent of household income). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services considers seven percent of a family’s income to be considered “affordable” for child care.¹² To help parents with paying for child care, pilot programs are being implemented in Wisconsin and New York City that provide women working in a trade with twelve months of cash assistance for child care. Through CARES Act funding in 2020, OAECE partnered with the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles and the Alternative Payment agencies to administer an ECE voucher program for low income and essential workers. Based on the Cares Act model, an ongoing local investment to provide low to moderate income families with infant/toddler child care vouchers could make a significant impact in Los Angeles County.

Level: County**Lever:** Programmatic**Length of Time:** Long-Term**Recommendation 2.4: Revise regulations to ensure children of the infant/toddler early care and education workforce are categorically eligible for subsidized child care regardless of their household income.**

As wages and benefits increase in other professions, recruiting and retaining early educators and other program staff has increasingly become more challenging for infant/toddler ECE programs.¹³ A 2023 study conducted by the Los Angeles Education Partnership on infant/toddler child care noted that a primary concern of ECE center directors is not having enough staff to enroll the full number of infants and toddlers the center is licensed to serve. ECE programs across the country are experiencing similar staff shortages. For example, some ECE programs are not able to open classrooms due to not having enough staff. In 2022, to recruit and retain people to the ECE workforce, Kentucky approved all ECE center-based and family child care home staff to be categorically eligible for subsidized child care regardless of income. Since this statute took effect, over 3,000 parents working in ECE programs and

¹² United States Department of Health and Human Services. (2016). Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program. Federal Register. Retrieved from <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/09/30/2016-22986/child-care-and-development-fund-ccdf-program>

¹³ Khattar, R. and Coffey, M. (2023). The Child Care Sector Is Still Struggling To Hire Workers. Center for American Progress. Retrieved from <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/the-child-care-sector-is-still-struggling-to-hire-workers/>

their children have benefited from this subsidy.¹⁴ The adoption of a similar policy in California could be a building block to reinforce the infant/toddler ECE system.

Level: State

Lever: Legislative

Length of Time: Long-term

Priority Area 3: Program Operations

Issue: The costs to operate an infant/toddler early care and education program are often greater than the revenue programs generate.

Goal: Support infant/toddler early care and education providers in lowering operational expenses and increasing revenue efficiency.

According to Zero to Three, a national organization focused on infant/toddler care, more than half of the nation's infants and toddlers spend some or all of their day cared for by someone other than their parents. To provide safe and quality ECE services, infant and toddler child care requires low adult to child ratios which result in high personnel and operational costs. Often providers do not charge families, particularly families earning a low to moderate income, enough to cover these expenses because parents cannot afford to pay the full cost of care. The U.S. Department of the Treasury's report entitled *The Economics of Child Care Supply in the United States*, stated that infant/toddler programs tend to operate with extremely thin profit margins that are usually less than 1 percent. The adult to child ratios for preschool-age children is lower (i.e., one adult is responsible for more children) than the adult to child ratio for infants and toddlers, thus, preschool services have lower personnel and operational costs. Until recently, the business model for most infant/toddler programs was dependent on serving preschool-age children to be financially solvent. Income generated from serving preschool-age children supplemented the ECE provider's cost to care for infants and toddlers. This fragile business model has been disrupted and is now even more precarious as four-year-old children are attending transitional kindergarten at their local elementary school. Infant/toddler ECE programs are increasingly serving fewer preschool-age children as California's expansion of publicly funded transitional kindergarten for all four-year-olds ramps up. As a result, infant/toddler ECE programs are not generating the amount of income needed to be sustainable and are grappling with how to remain open.¹⁵ Exploring new business practices to support and strengthen ECE services is an essential lever to fortify the infant/toddler child care system.

Recommendation 3.1: Invest in business training for family child care homes to strengthen operational practices.

Many infants and toddlers are served by family child care homes, yet these privately-owned child care businesses struggle to be successful. The U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship stated, child care businesses are "one of the most necessary, but difficult businesses to operate as operator pay is low and margins are tight."¹⁶ The conditions for operational sustainability and providing a quality program includes working conditions, business practices, and caregiver resources. The number of home-based child care programs in California declined 30 percent from 2010 to 2019 while the number of children under age 5 only declined 6 percent during this same period of time.¹⁷ Creating the Conditions for Families to Thrive, a 2019 report by the Pritzker Children's

¹⁴ Powell, A., & Dade, A. What the Bluegrass State Can Teach Us About Increasing Access to Child Care: How Other States Could Follow Kentucky's lead. (2023). University of California, Berkeley, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment. Retrieved from <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/publications/brief/kentucky-model/>

¹⁵ Keany, C., & Leventon, R. (2014). Impact of Universal Pre-Kindergarten on Community Child Care Providers in the Fort Worth Independent School District. Center for Nonprofit Management. Retrieved from <https://www.campfirefw.org/am-site/media/universal-pre-k-impact-study.pdf>

¹⁶ Kelton, R., & Tennis, I. (2024). Small Business, Big Implications: A Look at Business Practices in Family Child Care Programs. McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership. Retrieved from <https://mccormick-assets.floodcdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/mcecl-research-note-winter-240131.pdf>

¹⁷ Ekyalongo, Y. Y., Li, W., & Franchett, A. (2023). As the Number of Home-Based Child Care Providers Declines Sharply, Parents are Leaving More Negative Online Child Care Reviews. Child Trends. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.56417/962z2356o>

Initiative and Ascend at the Aspen Institute, states that targeted professional development related to small business and administrative practices helps improve ECE provider business skills and increases income. For example, family child care homes participating in a one-on-one business coaching program demonstrated a 93 percent average income increase and reported earning 10.4 percent more in wages.¹⁸ Throughout California, Resource and Referral agencies provide some business training to family child care homes through the Child Care Initiative Project. The Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) also offers small business training and resources, including a Business Needs Assessment for individualized coaching. In 2024, the DEO will begin tailoring its small business supports to meet the needs of family child care homes. OAECE is collaborating with DEO to help inform these modifications and DEO plans to engage with others such as Resource and Referral agencies to strengthen current trainings offered through the California Child Care Initiative. By supporting family child care home business practices, the infant/toddler ECE system will be infused with tools to strengthen its sustainability.

Level: County

Lever: Programmatic

Length of Time: Short-Term

Recommendation 3.2: Establish County and community-based partnerships that connect family child care homes and Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers serving infants and toddlers to resources that reduce operational costs.

Home-based ECE providers are under-resourced and in need of support systems that are easy to navigate. For example, license-exempt Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers report struggling to pay rent, utilities, and other material costs such as nutritious food for children in their care. According to the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles' 2023 Landscape of Home-Based Child Care in Los Angeles County, home-based ECE providers need more income to provide the necessary materials, food, and other items to support the young children they serve.¹⁹ In New York City, Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers that receive child care subsidies can also receive food cards, financial assistance, mental health services, and technology assistance. Formal family child care home support networks have been established throughout the nation, including the City of San Jose and states such as Massachusetts and New York. These networks support ECE providers through a range of resources such as trainings to navigate government systems, food programs, and licensing agencies. Establishing similar networks in Los Angeles County can help home-based providers in easing some operational costs they incur to provide infant/toddler ECE services.

Level: County

Lever: Programmatic

Length of Time: Short-Term

Recommendation 3.3: Align infant/toddler age range definitions and ratios across General Child Care, Alternative Payment Programs, and California Community Care Licensing to increase the ability for early care and education programs to blend funding.

California's subsidized ECE system is comprised of a complex set of programs funded through both federal and state grants. There are multiple subsidized ECE funding streams for children ages birth to 36 months such as General Child Care and the Alternative Payment program. Each funding stream has its own guidelines and reimbursement rates, as well as different definitions related to the age of the child and teacher to child ratios. For example, a child who is 30 months old can be considered by Community Care Licensing regulations either a toddler in a class that requires a 6:1 teacher to toddler ratio or can be in a class that requires a 12:1 teacher to preschooler ratio. However, if the center is receiving General Child Care funding, then this child must be in a class that has a 4:1 teacher to toddler ratio. To complicate this further, if the center is receiving Alternative Payment funding, then it will only receive a reimbursement rate equivalent to the child being in a teacher to preschooler ratio of 12:1.

¹⁸ Creating the Conditions for Family Child Care to Thrive. (2019). All Our Kin. Retrieved from https://allourkin.org/files/galleries/Family_Child_Care_to_Thrive.pdf

¹⁹ The Landscape of Home-Based Child Care in Los Angeles County: A Framework for Future Planning. (2023). Child Care Alliance Los Angeles. Retrieved from <https://www.ccala.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/CCALA-HBCC-Landscape-Analysis-2023.pdf>

This complexity creates barriers to blending public funding and the ability to provide cost-effective infant/toddler early learning experiences that result in optimum child outcomes. As California moves to a single-rate reimbursement system to compensate ECE providers, it is critical that age definitions for children birth to 36 months old are aligned across General Child Care, Alternative Payment, and Community Care Licensing. These changes will improve program and cost efficiencies, streamline reimbursements, and increase the level of resources needed to provide high quality early learning experiences. Partners may include Service Employees International Union Local 99 and other organizations advocating for similar changes.

Level: State

Lever: Legislative

Length of Time: Long-Term

Priority Area 4: Workforce Compensation

Issue: Early educators – a workforce disproportionately comprised of women of color – earn low wages and receive few benefits.

Goal: Increase compensation for the early care and education workforce serving infants and toddlers to ensure an equitable living wage, as well as health and retirement benefits.

The infant/toddler ECE system centers on early educators providing safe and enriching experiences for children, yet the workforce earns very low wages. According to the Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, 65 percent of California's ECE workforce are women of color.²⁰ In 2022, the Bureau of Labor Statistics stated that Los Angeles County's average annual salary for a child care worker is \$36,160, a preschool teacher is \$47,910, and a kindergarten teacher is \$97,490. By comparison, the living wage in Los Angeles County for a single adult with one child is \$91,115 and a two-adult family with two children is \$125,411.²¹ Low wages and few benefits are driving the current workforce away from the profession and are a deterrent to attract new people into the infant/toddler ECE workforce. As a result, programs are struggling to find qualified staff and are unable to enroll enough young children to meet its maximum licensed capacity.

Recommendation 4.1: Establish the state's subsidy reimbursement rates for licensed early care and education providers serving infants and toddlers at 100 percent of the true cost of care which includes compensation at a living wage with benefits.

According to OAECE's 2022 Local Funding Priorities report, more than 211,000 infants and toddlers in Los Angeles County qualify for subsidized ECE services. Although there are many children in need, the State reimbursement rate ceilings for subsidized ECE have not kept pace with increases in the minimum wage or with rising child care business costs. As a result, the reimbursement rates for centers and family child care homes caring for infants/toddlers approved for subsidized ECE does not cover the true cost of care. For example, the true cost of care to serve an infant for one year at a licensed ECE center is \$20,139 more annually than what the Alternative Payment program's reimbursement rate pays.²² California is in the process of changing how it calculates reimbursement rates from a market-based approach to a cost-based model. This is a positive step forward to closing the gap between expenses and revenue. To address long standing inequities in the system and stop the cycle of early educators continually receiving low wages, it is critical that the state establish the reimbursement rates for licensed ECE programs serving infants and toddlers at 100 percent of the true cost of care.

Level: State

Lever: Legislative

Length of Time: Long-Term

²⁰ Kim, Y., Austin, L.J.E., & Hess, H. (2024). The Multilayered Effects of Racism on Early Educators in California: An Examination of Disparities in Wages, Leadership Roles, and Education. Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/publications/report/effects-of-racism-on-california-early-educators>

²¹ Living Wage Calculation for Los Angeles County, California. (2024). Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Retrieved from <https://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/06037>

²² Based on the 2022 Cost Estimation Model for the Reimbursement Rate

Recommendation 4.2: Revise Family, Friend, and Neighbor subsidy reimbursement rates to a living wage that includes compensation that is no less than the Los Angeles County’s hourly minimum wage.

Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care has always been a critical part of the ECE system. According to the US Dept of Health and Human Services 2019 national survey of home-based ECE providers, more than 2.8 million children under three years old were in Family, Friend, and Neighbor care across the nation and roughly 80 percent of California’s children ages birth to two years old were cared for by Family, Friends, and Neighbors.²³ Families who typically prefer home-based child care over centers include families with infants and toddlers, those working non-standard hours, and families with children who have disabilities or special needs.²⁴ As a part of the ECE subsidy system, Family, Friend, and Neighbor license-exempt providers may be eligible to receive voucher payments from government subsidy programs for the care they provide infants and toddlers. A 2022 Center for the Study of Child Care Employment report found that California Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers who receive subsidized child care payments earn what equates to approximately \$8 per hour and many are considered earning a low income. The California Rate and Quality Workgroup has recommended that the true-cost reimbursement rate for Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care should include no less than the minimum wage, sick leave, paid vacation days, and preparation time. It is also imperative that the reimbursement rate for Los Angeles County Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care reflects no less than Los Angeles County’s minimum wage. An increase in the reimbursement rate for license-exempt Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers would demonstrate value to critical members of the ECE system, as well as strengthen infant/toddler child care overall.

Level: State

Lever: Legislative

Length of Time: Long-Term

Recommendation 4.3: Expand guaranteed basic income programs for Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care providers who support infants and toddlers.

Many Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care providers are unpaid, and according to Home Grown’s 2021 report, when paid, Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers receive about \$8,000 per year for full-time care of one or more children. Nearly 50 percent of Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care providers report worrying about material hardships such as bills, housing costs, and finding other income when children grow older.²⁵ Guaranteed income programs are showing promising results for helping households gain financial stability and improving health outcomes. First 5 LA is partnering with Home Grown to pilot a guaranteed income program for Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers. Initial results from similar guaranteed income programs implemented by Home Grown are showing “a decrease in participants who report material hardship and an increase in the likelihood of remaining in the child care field.”²⁶ The Los Angeles County Center for Strategic Partnerships is leading a Guaranteed Income Coordinating Council for various County strategies. For example, the Poverty Alleviation Initiative, as well as the Department of Public Health’s Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Division, are piloting a guaranteed income program for targeted populations. Expanding guaranteed income programs to include Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care providers would serve as an innovative approach to strengthening the infant/toddler ECE system.

Level: County

Lever: Programmatic

Length of Time: Long-Term

²³ The Landscape of Home-Based Child Care in Los Angeles County: A Framework for Future Planning. (2023). Child Care Alliance Los Angeles. Retrieved from <https://www.ccala.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/CCALA-HBCC-Landscape-Analysis-2023.pdf>

²⁴ The Landscape of Home-Based Child Care in Los Angeles County: A Framework for Future Planning. (2023). Child Care Alliance Los Angeles. Retrieved from <https://www.ccala.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/CCALA-HBCC-Landscape-Analysis-2023.pdf>

²⁵ Powell, A., Adejumo, T., Austin, L. J. E., & Copeman Petig, A. Caregiver Motivation, Identity, and Resilience: A Study of Family, Friend, Neighbor (FFN), and Nanny Care in California- Part Two. (2023). Center for the Study of Child Care Employment. Retrieved from <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/california-ffn-nanny.pdf>

²⁶ Renew, N. Looking Ahead to 2024: Finding Hope and Taking Action in an Uncertain Year. Home Grown Child Care. (2024). Retrieved from <https://homegrownchildcare.org/looking-ahead-to-2024-finding-hope-and-taking-action-in-an-uncertain-year/>

Recommendation 4.4: Explore the feasibility of a local ongoing revenue source to subsidize compensation for infant/toddler early care and education providers.

The infant/toddler ECE system is experiencing changes that are straining an already fragile structure. To stabilize this system, investments at the federal, state, and local levels are needed. Some municipalities have initiated approaches locally to supplement state and federal investments. For example, a children's agenda was passed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1987 which set the stage for several ballot initiatives for children, including an initiative to support child care wages. In 2020, Alameda County implemented a tax to support ECE and San Joaquin County implemented a cannabis tax to support children and youth. Los Angeles County currently does not have a dedicated local funding stream to support ECE services. By establishing local ECE funding, Los Angeles County may be able to increase compensation for early educators and stabilize the infant/toddler child care system.

Level: County

Lever: Legislative

Length of Time: Long-Term

Priority Area #5: Workforce Pathways and Qualifications

Issue: Early educators encounter barriers to accessing training and professional development to strengthen their skills, knowledge, and qualifications.

Goal: Improve equitable access to career pathways, professional development, and resources for early care and education providers serving infants and toddlers.

Child care is the backbone of Los Angeles County's larger workforce and early educators will always be in demand. It is estimated that Los Angeles County needs an additional 33,600 early educators to supplement the current ECE workforce of 28,200.²⁷ According to the Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, 65 percent of California's ECE workforce are women of color.²⁸ A 2018 Learning Policy Institute report notes the primary barriers to recruiting and retaining a qualified early childhood education workforce are: 1) low compensation and 2) little professional support for educators.²⁹ Many infant/toddler early educators struggle to afford training and college coursework. While Los Angeles County has a wide array of entities that provide professional development for the ECE workforce, it needs a coordinated and centralized professional development strategy to improve early educators' access to training. A 2018 Learning Policy Institute report notes that "teaching is a highly stressful profession relative to other fields, and the combination of limited professional support and low compensation makes ECE particularly high stress."³⁰ Ultimately, the infant/toddler ECE workforce needs easier access to free professional development activities to support Los Angeles County's youngest learners.

Recommendation 5.1: Establish a centralized Los Angeles County Center of Excellence for early care and education employers and workforce to support the infant/toddler child care system.

As Los Angeles County emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic, many ECE programs are not fully staffed and infant/toddler ECE programs report increased challenges in finding staff with desired

²⁷ Beacon for Quality. (2021). UNITE-LA. Retrieved from https://www.ccala.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/21_Beacon-One-Pager.pdf

²⁸ Kim, Y., Austin, L.J.E., & Hess, H. (2024). The Multilayered Effects of Racism on Early Educators in California: An Examination of Disparities in Wages, Leadership Roles, and Education. Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/publications/report/effects-of-racism-on-california-early-educators>

²⁹ Melnick, H., Meloy, B., Gardner, M., Wechsler, M., & Maier, A. (2018). Building an Early Learning System That Works: Next Steps for California. Palo Alto, CA: Learning Policy Institute. Retrieved from <https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/early-learning-ca>

³⁰ Melnick, H., Meloy, B., Gardner, M., Wechsler, M., & Maier, A. (2018). Building an Early Learning System That Works: Next Steps for California. Palo Alto, CA: Learning Policy Institute. Retrieved from <https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/early-learning-ca>

qualifications.³¹ Collaborative strategies have emerged to entice a new generation of early educators to join the field. During the past several years, the web-based California ECE Workforce Registry (Registry) has grown to be a centralized hub of information for over 100,000 ECE early educators across California. The information on the Registry ranges from job opportunities to available professional development courses and resources. Los Angeles County's Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) is also increasing its supports for the ECE field. DEO partners with businesses and employers through its network of America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) to place trained workers in vacancies, with a focus on quality jobs and careers. DEO is currently modernizing and enhancing its AJCC system and in 2024 DEO will establish a Center of Excellence to help strengthen the ECE workforce. OAECE, along with other organizations such as the Resource and Referral agencies, the Registry, and Partnerships for Education, Articulation, and Coordination in Higher Education (PEACH) will partner with DEO to expand career pathways, apprenticeships, high-road training partnerships, job training, and other workforce opportunities in ECE. The Center of Excellence will function as DEO's incubator for new strategies, training programs, and services to help meet the needs of the ECE sector and will serve as DEO's primary liaison and thought leader on ECE issues. The infusion of these additional workforce supports and opportunity to leverage resources is a step toward reducing professional development barriers experienced by the infant/toddler workforce.

Level: County

Lever: Programmatic

Length of Time: Short-Term

Recommendation 5.2: Establish a Los Angeles County Family Friend, and Neighbor Support Network to provide access to resources, learning opportunities, individualized support, home visitation opportunities, and social connections with other child care providers.

Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care is often an invisible part of the ECE system; a significant proportion are relatives, with grandmothers comprising the majority of relative caregivers. The Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles' 2023 study on home-based child care found that Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers may benefit from family support models, including home visitation, play and learn groups, and distributions of resources. To help reduce isolation and increase quality of services, Colorado, Rhode Island, and South Carolina are expanding their Parents as Teachers home visitation programs to include Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers.³² Most Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers are unaware of, and do not have access to, resources that could support them as a child care provider. To address this issue, the San Jose Public Library established a Family, Friend, and Neighbor Caregiver Support Network that connects ECE providers to workforce development opportunities, a peer community, and a range of resources. In Los Angeles County, the Child Care Resource Center facilitates play and learn groups and hosts story time activities for Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers. First 5 LA also convenes Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers for a monthly community of practice to learn about needs for child development activities, training, and resources. Partners working on related issues include the Los Angeles County Public Health's Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division, Service Employees International Union Local 99, and the California Child Care Initiative. A County-wide strategy building on these efforts would strengthen resources for Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers who are caring for infants and toddlers.

Level: County

Lever: Programmatic

Length of Time: Short-Term

Recommendation 5.3: Expand partnerships between institutions of higher education and infant/toddler ECE programs for apprenticeships, as well as unit-bearing professional development for early educators caring for infants and toddlers.

³¹ Powell, A., Adejumo, T., Austin, L. J. E., & Copeman Petig, A. Caregiver Motivation, Identity, and Resilience: A Study of Family, Friend, Neighbor (FFN), and Nanny Care in California - Part Two. (2023). Center for the Study of Child Care Employment. Retrieved from <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/california-ffn-nanny.pdf>

³² Strengthening Home-Based Child Care: Ideas From States Awarded Preschool Development Birth-Five Grants. (July 2020). Build Initiative. Retrieved from <https://buildinitiative.org/wpcontent/uploads/2020/07/StrengthenHomeBasedChildCareREPORTfinal.pdf>

As Los Angeles County combats a shortage of early educators, apprenticeship programs are gaining traction as a viable model to expand the infant/toddler ECE workforce. ECE workforce apprentices complete college coursework and participate in paid on-the-job training to earn California Child Development Permits. Unfortunately, ECE apprenticeship programs in Los Angeles County are limited. Currently, the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity, in partnership with OAECE, is utilizing American Rescue Plan funding to support ECE apprenticeships with the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the Child Care Resource Center. The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation is also funding an ECE apprenticeship model through the Los Angeles Education Partnership. Expanding partnerships between infant/toddler ECE programs and community colleges may provide opportunities to establish infant/toddler ECE specific apprenticeships and design credit-bearing courses that meet ECE workforce training needs. For example, Rio Hondo College is developing a course in collaboration with an ECE program that is tailored to the program's staff development needs. In this pilot, staff who participate will receive college credit, in addition to having access to the community colleges' student support services such as health services, mental health support, and food access. Additionally, the Strong Workforce Taskforce, which is comprised of 19 of Los Angeles County's community colleges Career and Technical Education leaders, has identified ECE as a key workforce pathway to support and is ready to partner with infant/toddler ECE programs. Based on foundational efforts, Los Angeles County is poised to expand ECE apprenticeship models and credit-bearing staff development opportunities specifically for the infant/toddler ECE workforce.

Level: County

Lever: Programmatic

Length of Time: Short-Term

Recommendation 5.4: Revise California Child Development Associate Teacher and Teacher Permits to require successful completion of at least one infant and toddler development college course.

The Commission for Teacher Credentialing (CTC) oversees all California teaching credentials and certificates, including the California Child Development Permit. Although college classes are essential to obtaining a Child Development Associate Teacher Permit or a Child Development Teacher Permit, CTC does not require successful completion of an infant/toddler development college course. One component of providing high-quality infant/toddler ECE is for early educators to understand the unique learning abilities of infants and toddlers, how to plan appropriate activities, use daily routines to bond with babies, and how to provide cognitive stimulation through conversation, interaction, and responsive relationships. Early educators working with infants and toddlers must understand the developmental stages of children birth to 36 months and relationship-based care. In 2020, CTC's Child Development Advisory Panel recommended that the Associate Teacher and Teacher Permits include course work to reflect learning foundations for infants and toddlers. The panel was concerned that this content is presently optional within preparation for the permits. A revision to the Child Development Permit to require successful completion of an infant/toddler college course for associate teachers and teachers would be an important step forward to ensure early educators are prepared to support young children.

Level: State

Lever: Legislative

Length of Time: Long-Term

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.

BF:da:aw

Cc: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Chief Executive Office
Department of Economic Opportunity

POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

ORDINANCE
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Chapter 3.75 - POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

Sections:

3.75.010 - Creation.

There is created a Los Angeles County Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development, hereinafter referred to as the "Roundtable."

(Ord. 2013-0030 § 1, 2013: Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.020 – Members.

The Roundtable members shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors and shall consist of:

- A. Chair of the ~~Child Care Planning Committee~~ Los Angeles County's Local Planning Council (LPC) or a member designated by the LPC Chair;
- B. **One County and Local Education Agency** representative nominated by each of the following entities:
 - 1. Department of Public Social Services,
 - 2. Department of Children and Family Services,
 - 3. Department of Mental Health,
 - 4. Department of Probation,
 - 5. Department of Public Health,
 - 6. ~~Chief Executive Office~~ Department of Economic Opportunity,
 - 7. Department of Parks and Recreation
 - 8. Los Angeles County Office of Education,
 - 9. Los Angeles Unified School District,
- C. **One Organizational Representative** nominated by each of the following entities:
 - 1. Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles, **comprised of the 10 state-funded child care resource and referral agencies, a partnership of 10 Resource and Referral and Alternative Payment agencies in LA County**
 - 2. Southern California Association for the Education of Young Children,
 - 3. Commission for Children and Families,
 - 4. Los Angeles Children and Families First Proposition 10 Commission (also known as: First 5 LA),
 - 5. ~~Los Angeles Universal Preschool~~ Service Employees International Union
- D. Ten ~~One~~ members, two nominated by each member of the Board and selected from each of the

following expert categories, with background, knowledge, expertise and/or experience in child care, early childhood education, or child development fields. Board of Supervisor appointees must meet one of the following categories:

1. Academia or research,
2. Private business sector
3. Philanthropy (charitable organization or foundation focused on children and families)
4. Community of legal advocacy
5. Child care
 - a. Faith-based child care center operator
 - b. Employer-support child care center operator
 - c. Family child care program operator
 - d. Private or public child care center operator,
 - e. Family Friends and Neighbor, license-exempt provider
 - f. Resource and Referral Agency
 - g. Alternative Payment Program

~~5~~ 6. Child care advocate

~~6~~–7. Parent

~~7.~~ Demographer

8. Facilities finance expert,

9. ~~Economist~~ Legislative Analyst,

10. Labor representative,

11. ~~CalWORKS participant~~ Human Services (e.g.: housing navigation, mental health, physical health, health care

12. ~~Any person who is an expert in one of the expert categories set forth Section 7.75.020 C.~~

E. Alternates

1. Members appointed under subsection B of this section, as representatives of a County Department, shall identify an alternate who can vote in the member's absence. Members shall identify their alternate by completing the appropriate Roundtable-approved alternate designation form in advance of the meeting at which the alternate may vote and count towards quorum. In the event that both the member and the alternate are unable to attend a Roundtable meeting, a non-voting departmental representative can attend the Roundtable meeting in their place and the representative's attendance will count for quorum purposes.
2. Members appointed under subsection B C, as Organizational representatives of non-County entities, may also identify an alternate to vote in the member's absence by completing the appropriate Roundtable- approved alternate designation form in advance of the meeting at

which the alternate may vote.

3. Members appointed pursuant to **subsections C-D**, shall not be able to identify an alternate to vote in the member's absence.

(Ord. 2013-0030 § 2, 2013: Ord. 2011-0028 § 1, 2011: Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2006-0011 § 1, 2006: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.030 – Term of service.

A. All members of the Roundtable shall serve at the pleasure of the Board

B. Term limits for members **from organizations other than County Departments** described in **section 3.75.020 C A, B, and D** can serve up to two consecutive terms without a break. A term lasts up to four years. Former members will be eligible to serve again after a one-year hiatus.

C. **Term limits for members from County Departments described in section 3.75.020 B and D will not have term limits.**

D. Term Limits for members described in **section 3.75.020 D E** can serve up to three consecutive terms without a break. A term lasts up to four years. Former members will be eligible to serve again after a one-year hiatus.

E. A member's position on the Roundtable shall become vacant upon the member's death, resignation, removal by the Board, removal by the nominating entities in **subsection 3.75.020 A, B, and C**, in the event the member's employment or status no longer meets the membership criteria set forth in Section 3.75.020, or develops a conflict of interest described below, and is not granted a finding of special circumstance. If such a vacancy should occur, the appointed successor, nominated pursuant to Section 3.75.040, shall have their first term begin when their appointment is approved by the Board.

(Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.040 - Vacancies.

A nomination for a member to fill a vacancy shall be made by the nominating entity of the member whose position becomes vacant.

(Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.050 - Conflict of interest.

No individual shall be appointed to the Roundtable if that individual or an agency they represent or in which the individual holds a financial **and or/political** interest receives a contract or incurs a financial benefit based on recommendations made by or received by the Roundtable, unless the Board makes a finding that special circumstances exist which justify his or her appointment. In cases where such an interest exists at the time of a member's appointment or develops after appointment and the Board has

made the special finding required above, the member shall abstain from participating in any analysis, discussions, decisions or recommendations affecting such interest.

(Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.060 - Staff.

The Roundtable shall be supported by staff of the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education within the Department of Public Health Office.

(Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.070 - Sunset review date.

The first sunset review date for the Roundtable shall be June 30, 2016. Sunset Review will occur every four years thereafter.

(Ord. 2013-0030 § 3, 2013: Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.080 - Operating procedures.

The Roundtable shall adopt bylaws, including provisions relating to the frequency, time and place of holding meetings, elections and terms of its chair and other officers, conflict of interest laws, and such other rules and procedures as it deems necessary or convenient for the conduct of the Roundtable's activities and operation. A quorum of the Roundtable shall be a majority (50% +1) of the Roundtable members who have been appointed, and are present. At minimum, 15 members or their properly designated alternates must be present for but in no event shall a quorum be less than eight.

(Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.090 - Mission

The mission of the Los Angeles County Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development is to build and strengthen the field of child care and development by providing recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on policy, systems, and infrastructure improvement

(Ord. 2013-0030 § 4, 2013: Ord. 2010-0007 § 1, 2010; Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.100 - Duties and responsibilities.

The Roundtable will have the following duties and responsibilities:

- A. Develop policy recommendations related to child care and development that are based on solid research, economic forecasts, projected demographic shifts and trends, and federal and state policies, taking into account all forms of child care and development services.
- B. Advise and assist County departments in developing and implementing strategies to connect clients and/or employees to high quality child care and development services.
- C. In conjunction with the Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations, develop recommendations for consideration by the Board on the County, state, and federal legislative

budget issues related to child care and development. The Roundtable shall work with community stakeholders so as to understand the impact of the issues on the supply, quality, and demand for child care and development services.

- D. Working in collaboration with County departments and community stakeholders, identify strategies to secure and leverage, coordinate, monitor and maximize funding for and access to high quality child care and development services.
- E. Develop, distribute in electronic format, and post on a County website, an annual report summarizing key issues, Roundtable recommendations, and Board actions.

(Ord. 2013-0030 § 5, 2013: Ord. 2010-0008 § 1, 2010; Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)

3.75.110 Subcommittees.

The roundtable shall establish one or more subcommittees to provide technical and professional expertise and support for any purposes that it decides will be beneficial. Such subcommittee(s) may include members of the child care planning committee as deemed necessary by the roundtable. Each subcommittee shall meet and shall make recommendations and reports as deemed necessary or appropriate by the roundtable.

(Ord. 2007-0068 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 2000-0025 § 1 (part), 2000.)