



POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part I: Cover Sheet.....	2
Part II: Mission Statement.....	4
Part III: Historical Background (III.2 and III.3: FY 2024-2025)	7
Part IV: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.....	11
Part V: Next Year's Annual Work Plan (FY 2026-2027)	13
Part VI: Current Year Accomplishments (FY 2025-2026)	17
Part VII: Ongoing/Long-Term Projects.....	21
Part VIII: Appendix.....	22

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 2025-2026

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

1.2) Address

555 West 5th Street, 34th Floor Los Angeles, California 90013

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 2025 – June 2026

COMMISSIONERS

Justin Blakely, Chair

Second Supervisorial District

Mercedes Santoro, Vice-Chair

Department of Parks and Recreation

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	Karla Rivas
Vacant	Gloria Davis	Amber Rivas	Ricardo Mota	Breeda McGrath

LA County Department or Local Education Agency Appointees

Department of Children and Family Services

Olga Vicuna

Alternate: Steve Sturm

Department of Probation

Jeannette Aguirre Carrillo

Alternate: Vacant

Department of Mental Health

Kanchana Tate

Alternate: Rebeca Hurtado

Los Angeles Unified School District

Ranae Amezquita

Alternate: Mary Melvin

Child Care Planning Committee

Andrea Fernandez Mendoza

Department of Parks and Recreation

Mercedes Santoro

Alternate: Vacant

Department of Public Health

Robert Gilchick

Alternate: Chanel Smith

Department of Public Social Services

Nurhan Pirim

Alternate: Nora Garcia-Rosales

Los Angeles County Office of Education

Luis Bautista

Alternate: Colin Legerton

Non-County Organization Appointees

Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles

Paul Pulver

Alternate: Jackie Majors

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

Fran Chasen

Alternate: Liliana Alvarez Hernandez

First 5 LA

Ofelia Medina

Alternate: Jaime Kalenik

Commission for Children and Families

Jacquelyn McCroskey

Alternate: Dora Jacildo

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 align 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 helps 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 align with the following LA County Strategic Priorities and Strategic Plan 2024-2030¹:

- Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative (ARDI) Strategic Plan²:
 - Strategic Goal No. 3: Increase Stable Full-Time Employment Among Individual Adults with Incomes at or Above 250% Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
- Strategic Plan Board - Directed Priorities
 - Priority #1: Child Protection
 - Priority #3: Care First, Jails Last
 - Priority #4: Homeless Initiative
 - Priority #6: Immigration
 - Priority #8: Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion
 - Priority #9: Poverty Alleviation Initiative

¹ Strategic Plan LA County, Choose LA County: To Live! To Invest! To Work! 2024-2030. Website accessed 9.4.26, https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/lac/1156577_Strat.Plan.Jan.2024.final.pdf

² LA County Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative Racial Equity Strategic Plan. Website accessed 9.4.26, <https://ceo.lacounty.gov/ardi/racial-equity-strategic-plan/>

- North Star 1: Make Investments that Transform Lives
 - Focus Area Goal 1B: Employment and Sustainable Wages
 - Focus Area Goal 1C: Housing and Homelessness
 - Focus Area Goal 1D: Support Vulnerable Populations
- North Star 2: Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities
 - Focus Area Goal 2A: Public Health
 - Focus Area Goal 2B: Care First, Jails Last
 - Focus Area Goal 2E: Economic Health
- North Star 3: Realize Tomorrow’s Government Today
 - Focus Area Goal 3A: Communication and Public Access

The Policy Roundtable Commission addresses issues that align with the following LA County’s Legislative Priorities 2025. Policy issues that align with LA County *State* Legislative Priorities 2025³ include:

- Economic and Workforce Development
- Equity
- Human Services
- Justice, Public Safety, and Emergency Management Systems

Policy issues that align with LA County *Federal* Legislative Priorities 2025⁴ include:

- Economic and Workforce Development
- Equity
- Human Services
- Services and Justice, Public Safety, and Emergency Management Systems

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 9. 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’s Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations, 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 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.

³ LA County State Legislative Platform: State Legislative Priorities In Action 2025. Website accessed 9.4.26, https://ceo.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Priorities-In-Action_State2025_Final.pdf

⁴ LA County Federal Legislative Platform: Federal Legislative Priorities In Action 2025. Website accessed 9.4.26, https://ceo.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Priorities-In-Action_Federal-2025-1.pdf

- Develop, distribute in electronic format, and post on a County website, an annual report summarizing key issues, Roundtable recommendations, and Board of Supervisors actions.

Unified Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education 2020-2025

In FY 2019-20, the Policy Roundtable co-created with the Office for the Advancement for Early Care and Education (OAECE) and Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) “A Unified Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education 2020-2025”⁵ (Unified Strategic Plan). 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 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

⁵ County of Los Angeles, A Unified Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education 2020-2025. Website accessed 9.4.26, [OAECE-Strategic-Plan_2020-2025-1.pdf](#)

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 (2024-2025)

- III.2) *Question: Include issues of focus in the past year (FY 2024-2025) (do not include current year FY 2025-2026 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 2024-2025

Issue	Accomplishment	Outcomes
Access to Early Care and Education		
There is an insufficient supply of ECE spaces across LA County and the high cost of child care has become a crucial workforce issue across all sectors, particularly impacting working women.	Policy Roundtable submitted a Pursuit of Position to LA County's CEO Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Office (LAIRs) to address this issue. The following is the Pursuit of Position the Policy Roundtable recommended the Board of Supervisors (BOS) adopt: Establish by July 1, 2025 an alternative rate methodology that reimburses ECE providers the true cost of providing state-subsidized child care based on Federal requirements; implement the new reimbursement rate structure by summer 2025; and allocate ongoing funding for the new reimbursement rate structure.	The Pursuit of Position was submitted to LAIRs for review and approval. Aspects of this position were included in SB 151 Trailer Bill – Early Childhood Education and Childcare which was signed into law in September 2025.

ECE is a complex and fragmented system, and there is no clear, centralized understanding of what child care and development services are offered across LA County departments.	In March 2024, the Policy Roundtable formed a Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc to begin mapping County services that intersect with child care and identify strategies to improve coordination between ECE and these County services. The Ad Hoc convened nine times during FY 2024–25.	The Policy Roundtable approved the Service Coordination Strategy on May 14, 2025 (see Attachment A: Policy Roundtable Service Coordination Strategy).
LA County lacks a unified, systems-level strategy to strengthen and coordinate care for infants and toddlers, making it difficult to address gaps and align investments across programs and agencies.	In September 2023, the BOS approved “Fortifying the Infant and Toddler Care System” Motion that directed OAECE to develop an Infant/Toddler Early Care and Education System Blueprint (Blueprint) for LA County. To support this effort, the Policy Roundtable provided input and policy recommendations to the Blueprint.	The Blueprint was submitted to the BOS on March 1, 2024, and serves as a guiding tool for County decision-makers, ECE advocates, funders, and legislators. The Policy Roundtable continued to refer to the Blueprint to inform discussions and decisions. It also provides the foundation for the LA County Unified ECE Strategic Plan FYs 2026–30.
Early Care and Education Workforce Supports		
The threat of immigration enforcement can impair the ability of students, regardless of their immigration status, to thrive and receive an equitable education. Deportation threats can negatively impact children’s mental and physical health and long-term development as well as the health and well-being of early educators.	Policy Roundtable submitted a Pursuit of Position to LAIRs to address this issue. The following is the Pursuit of Position the Policy Roundtable recommended the BOS adopt: Support AB 49 and similar measures that strengthen protections for immigrant children in California by prohibiting immigration enforcement officers from entering schools and child care facilities without proper legal authorization.	The Pursuit of Position was submitted to LAIRs for review and approval; however, the final version of AB 49 did not include ECE; however, the advocacy for ECE to be included informed the development of proposed legislation AB 2379 Family daycare homes: Fourth Amendment training (2025-2026).
Policy Roundtable Commission Infrastructure		
Selected leadership for FYs 2025-2027.	The Policy Roundtable held leadership elections for its Chair and Vice Chair positions.	Policy Roundtable approved Commissioners Justin Blakely to serve as Policy Roundtable Chair and Mercedes Santoro to serve as Policy Roundtable Vice Chair for FYs 2025-2027.

III.4) Changes to the Commission

Question: Indicate whether the Commission expanded, changed, or remained consistent with their duties/goals/missions during FY 2026-2025.

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 were approved by the BOS in January 2026.

The approved Ordinance (Attachment B: Policy Roundtable Ordinance No. 2026-0001) amends Title 3 – Advisory Commissions and Committees of the Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 3.75. This amendment includes enhancements to membership diversity, clarity in operational roles, updated term limits, and updated conflict of interest policy to be aligned with the County's conflict of interest policy, and removal of subcommittees.

Expanded

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 2021-22. 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 2024-25, 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 Pursuits of Position uplifted structural inequities in ECE and highlighted the need that legislation and policies should be reviewed through an equity lens
- The Policy Roundtable continued practices to broaden inclusivity for Commissioners and presenters which included:
 - Made virtual participation accessible for Commissioners who had extenuating circumstances

- Enabled guest presenters to present virtually which expanded the access to expertise and information provided to Commissioners
- Provided accessible parking options to Commissioners needing this accommodation
- Policy Roundtable agendas included more specific information on how the public can request accommodations and/or translation services
- 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 LA County Commission Manual and LA County’s Policy of Equity⁶.

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 2021-22. In FY 2024-25, 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 Position. For example, in its FY 2025-26 Pursuits of Positions the Policy Roundtable prioritized equity by addressing key issues such as measures to strengthen protections for immigrant child care providers and the children they serve and the need to develop a clear timeline to implement alternative methodology reimbursement rates that reflect the true cost of care to ensure higher wages for the ECE workforce. More information about the policy recommendations (Pursuits of Position) is in Part VI: Current Year Accomplishments. The Policy Roundtable also expanded its focus on diverse populations by learning more about systems coordination between ECE and the service referral system for parents impacted by the justice system and student parents attending public college and universities. In 2025-26, the Policy Roundtable expanded its focus on helping improve coordination and alignment between social support systems and ECE to include these populations.

⁶ Los Angeles County “County Policy of Equity” 9.015, 7.1.2011. Website accessed 9.4.26, <https://assets-us-01.kc-usercontent.com/0234f496-d2b7-00b6-17a4-b43e949b70a2/c6c6ed12-f0fc-41ba-8ba9-8b7ca6a254db/CPOE%202024%20%20%28Final%29.pdf>

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 2026-2027 and County Support

The Policy Roundtable identified the following goals for FY 2026-27 in its June 2026 meeting:

1. Strengthen Commission's collective knowledge about issues, such as:
 - Understanding ECE landscape at County, state, and federal levels
 - Interconnection between ECE and other social safety net programs
 - ECE workforce
 - Family access to ECE mixed delivery system
 - Special needs
2. Collaborate with other efforts such as:
 - Continue to invest in understanding, developing, and strengthening inter-County department relationships and promoting shared goals
3. Strengthen ECE Board of Supervisor Delegation Engagement
 - Utilize additional tools to influence support for Policy Roundtable priority issue areas and policy recommendations
4. Continue to support a strong partnership with Child Care Planning Committee

The Policy Roundtable FY 2026-27 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 LAIRs, and engage with Board of Supervisors Offices to elevate priority policy issue areas and recommendations.
2. Strengthen LA County Service Coordination with ECE System and Services: 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 increasing Policy Roundtable's collective knowledge, select Commissioners to serve on subcommittee Joint Committee on Legislation, and select Policy Roundtable's leadership for FYs 2027-29.

#1: Promote Public Policy Priority Issues

The Policy Roundtable will:

- Co-Chair and participate on the Joint Committee on Legislation that conducts policy analyses and provides public policy recommendations to the Policy Roundtable to consider for Pursuits of Position
- Continue its practice to develop policy recommendations and at least one Pursuit of Position
 - Submit Pursuit of Position to LAIRs
 - Share Pursuit of Position with the BOS Offices through structured informational meetings
- Continue to invite and engage the BOS Children's Deputies to the Policy Roundtable Commission meetings and keep Deputies abreast of ECE landscape and policy priority issue areas
- In addition to the Pursuit of Position, utilize other tools to elevate Policy Roundtable priority issues areas and policy recommendations

#2: Strengthen LA County Service Coordination with ECE System and Services

The Policy Roundtable will stay abreast of policies, research, and status of ECE landscape to inform its approach to prioritize issue areas and develop policy recommendations and promote integration across early childhood services and with other child/family support systems. The Policy Roundtable will facilitate meeting discussions to intentionally identify opportunities for coordination/integration across early childhood services and with other child/family support systems. The Policy Roundtable will also monitor progress in Service Coordination Strategy activities and continue to seek out other opportunities that improve collaboration and coordination between LA County Departments, cross-sectors, and other early childhood focused Commissions. The Policy Roundtable will also focus on:

- Understanding ECE landscape at County, state, and federal levels
- Interconnection between ECE and other social Safety net programs
- ECE workforce
- Family access to ECE mixed delivery system
- Special needs

#3: Strengthen Policy Roundtable Infrastructure

The Policy Roundtable will:

- Ratify Policy Roundtable Commissioners to serve on Joint Committee on Legislation
- Support the Joint Committee on Legislation will begin meeting in October 2026 for FY 2026-27
- Select Policy Roundtable Vice Chair for FY 2026-27
- Select Policy Roundtable leadership positions Chair and Vice Chair for FYs 2027-29

V.2 and V.3) Workplan FY 2026-2027 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 2026-2027			
Month	Goal 1: Promote Public Policy Priority Issues	Goal 2: Strengthen LA County Service Coordination with ECE System and Services	Goal 3: Strengthen Policy Roundtable Infrastructure
September 2026	• Review Policy Roundtable, Planning Committee, and OAECE Roles • Review LA County and state fiscal pressures and impact on ECE landscape • Further define ECE Delegation framework for working with County Supervisor Offices	• Review Policy Roundtable Goals and Plan for FY 2026-27 • First 5 LA Commission update by Policy Roundtable Commissioner appointed to First 5 LA Commission	• Review Annual Report FY 2025-26 • Ratify Joint Committee on Legislation members • Conduct nominations for Policy Roundtable Vice Chair FY 2026-27 • Review Brown Act requirements and

			Robert's Rules of Order practices
October 2026	- Review status of local, State, and federal public policies - BOS Delegations begin meeting with BOS Offices - Joint Committee on Legislation begins to meet	Review LA County data	- Approve Annual Report FY 2025-26 - Elect Vice Chair for FY 2026-27
November 2026	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting
December 2026	- Review status of local, State, and federal public policies - Invite #1: Board of Supervisor Deputy(ies) to present at and dialogue with Policy Roundtable - Joint Committee on Legislation presents proposed modifications to Public Policy Platform for Policy Roundtable to consider	- Spotlight County departments' activities that intersect with ECE - Review LA County ECE Strategic Plan 2026-2030 - First 5 LA Commission update by Policy Roundtable Commissioner appointed to First 5 LA Commission	
January 2027	- Review Governor's proposed Budget for FY 2026-27 - Invite #2: Board of Supervisor Deputy(ies) to present at and dialogue with Policy Roundtable - Approve modifications to Public Policy Platform as appropriate - Joint Committee on Legislation drafts priority policy issues areas	Presentation on LA County immigration resources and opportunities for collaborating with ECE system	
February 2027	- Discuss proposed priority policy issues drafted by Joint Committee on Legislation and informed by Planning Committee to include in Pursuit of Position - Invite #3: Board of Supervisor Deputy(ies) to present at and dialogue with Policy Roundtable	Presentation on Office of Child, Youth and Family Well-Being in LA County and opportunities for collaborating with ECE system	
March 2027	- Approve Pursuit(s) of Position - Invite #4: Board of Supervisor Deputy(ies) to present at and	Presentation on status of LA County system for supporting families	

	dialogue with Policy Roundtable Delegations begin to share Pursuit(s) of Position with Board of Supervisors' Deputies	experiencing homelessness and opportunities for collaborating with ECE system First 5 LA Commission update by Policy Roundtable Commissioner appointed to First 5 LA Commission	
April 2027	- Review status of local, State, and federal public policies - Delegations continue to share Pursuit(s) of Position with BOS Deputies - Invite #5: Board of Supervisor Deputy(ies) to present at and dialogue with Policy Roundtable	Presentation on County and/or other supports that intersect with ECE system	Announce nomination process for leadership positions Chair and Vice Chair for FYs 2027-29
May 2027	- Review Governor's May Revise Budget FY 2026-2027 - Follow up with BOS Deputies	- Presentation on County and/or other supports that intersect with ECE system with ECE system - First 5 LA Commission update by Policy Roundtable Commissioner appointed to First 5 LA Commission	Launch nomination process for leadership positions Chair and Vice Chair for FYs 2027-29
June 2027	Review status of local, State, and federal public policies	Identify Policy Roundtable FY 2027-28 goals	- Select leadership positions Chair and Vice Chair for FYs 2027-29 - Identify Policy Roundtable successes and challenges for FY 2026-27

PART VI: CURRENT YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Question: For Commissions that are long-standing (2 years or older), include your accomplishments from your reporting year (2025-2026) and a completion date or expected completion date.

VI.1) Accomplishments FY 2025-2026

The Policy Roundtable's significant accomplishments for FY 2025-26 are captured in the following three categories:

1. Developed Policy Positions
2. Informed Board of Supervisors about Proposed Policies and ECE Needs
3. Implemented Service Coordination Strategy

1) DEVELOPED POLICY POSITIONS

The Policy Roundtable developed Pursuits of Position addressing: 1) ECE subsidized alternative rate methodology, 2) protections for immigrant children in ECE, and 3) supports that strengthen child care infrastructure specifically targeting communities impacted by recent fires. These Pursuit of Positions were informed by the Planning Committee, County Departments, and the public. The Pursuits of Position were approved on March 11, 2026 (see Attachment C: Policy Roundtable Pursuits of Position FY 2025-26).

Pursuits of Position

- Support AB 1981 and similar measures that require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide a definitive timeline and annual updates regarding CDSS's transition to new reimbursement rates based on the alternative methodology
- Support AB 2379 and similar measures that strengthen protections for immigrant child care providers and the children they serve by notifying child care providers of their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement
- Support proposed FY 2026-27 Budget item and similar measures that strengthen child care infrastructure, specifically targeted toward communities impacted by recent fires

Background and Status of Each Position

Pursuit of Position regarding Legislation Session 2025-26: Early Care and Education - Support AB 1981 and similar measures that require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide a definitive timeline and annual updates regarding CDSS's transition to new reimbursement rates based on the alternative methodology

Background: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2023 California was home to more than 37,000 child care workers and the average annual salary for this workforce was \$40,060. By comparison, the living wage in Los Angeles County for a single adult with one child is \$101,200.³ The California ECE Workforce Study also found that in 2023, 50 percent of early educators in family child care homes, 38 percent of Assistants/Aides in early education centers, and 29 percent of teachers in early education centers participated in at least one or more public assistance programs. Inadequate reimbursement rates suppress wages causing an ECE workforce shortage and limited supply of programs to meet child care needs of working families. Welfare and Institutions Code section 10227.6 (i) states that the Governor and Legislature shall, by no later than July 1, 2025, establish reimbursement rates based on the alternative methodology and if the new reimbursement rates established do not take effect on July 1, 2025, the CDSS

shall provide the Legislature with the department's anticipated timeline for transitioning from the rates that are in effect on July 1, 2025, to the new reimbursement rates established and new reimbursement rates have not been established. A timeline to transition from the current regional market reimbursement rate methodology based on "how much parents can pay" to the new reimbursement rates based on a "cost estimation model" has not been provided to the Governor nor the Legislature. This delay is resulting in continued implementation of inadequate reimbursement rates for ECE providers compounded by the absence of a definitive timeline for transitioning to the alternative methodology. To address this, Assembly Bill (AB 1981), introduced by Assembly Majority Leader Aguiar-Curry, requires DPSS to provide the Chairperson of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee the department's timeline for transitioning from the current reimbursement rates to the new reimbursement rates by January 31, 2027, and every subsequent year until the rates established in section 10227.6 (i) are in effect.

Status: The Pursuit of Position was approved by LAIRs in April 2026 and LAIRs conducted advocacy activities to support this position (see Attachment D: LA County Pursuits of Position April 2026). As of September 4, 2026, AB 1981 was passed in the California Assembly and Senate is being prepared for the Governor's review and decision.

Pursuit of Position regarding Legislation Session 2025-26: Early Care and Education - Support AB 2379 and similar measures that strengthen protections for immigrant child care providers and the children they serve by notifying child care providers of their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement

Background: California students have the right to attend public school in the State free from discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, and bullying (CA Education Code [EC] 220, 234, et seq.). The threat of immigration enforcement can impair the ability of students, regardless of their immigration status, to thrive and receive an equitable education. Deportation threats can negatively impact children's mental and physical health and long-term development as well as the health and well-being of early educators. Family child care homes are essential to Los Angeles County's child care system, particularly for working and immigrant families. These ECE providers care for children in their homes which makes them uniquely vulnerable to intimidation, misinformation, and unlawful searches or arrests by law enforcement, including federal immigration authorities. Without clear, accessible education of their rights, ECE providers may unknowingly allow unlawful entry into their homes or feel pressured to comply with actions that violate constitutional protections. Fear and confusion around immigration enforcement can force ECE providers to close their doors, disrupting care for families and putting children at risk. Assembly Bill 2379, introduced by Assemblymember Solache, seeks to provide licensed and license-exempt family child care providers with information about their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement to protect themselves, the children in their care, and the families they serve.

Status: The Pursuit of Position was approved by LAIRs in April 2026 and LAIRs conducted advocacy activities to support this position (see Attachment D: LA County Pursuits of Position April 2026). As of September 4, 2026, AB 1981 was passed in the California Assembly and was ordered to "inactive" file for the Senate.

Pursuit of Position regarding CA Budget FY 2026-27: Early Care and Education - Support proposed FY 2026-27 Budget item and similar measures that strengthen child care infrastructure, specifically targeted toward communities impacted by recent fires

Background: In January 2025, the Los Angeles County wildfires severely impacted the child care sector, reducing the system's capacity in the County by 2,802 licensed ECE spaces. According to California Community Care Licensing, licensed child care providers submitted 339 incident reports documenting a wide range of impacts from the fires. Across Los Angeles County, 42 ECE licensed facilities were destroyed,

including 23 centers and 19 family child care homes. In addition, nine ECE-licensed facilities were significantly damaged (6 centers, 3 family child care homes), and 30 license-exempt Family, Friends, and Neighbors (FFN) providers were impacted. According to Pasadena Community Foundation's (PCF) Six-Month Impact Report of the Eaton Fire, "Child care providers and their client families are among those most profoundly impacted by the Eaton Fire." PCF also reports that more than half of the licensed family child care home facilities in Altadena were damaged or destroyed, "while 60 percent of the spaces previously available for children are no longer available." The Governor's Budget Summary 2026-27 includes "an increase of \$11.5 million one-time Proposition 64 funding for child care infrastructure, specifically targeted toward communities impacted by recent fires.

Status: The Pursuit of Position was approved by LAIRs in April 2026 and LAIRs conducted advocacy activities to support this position. The approved State Budget included an increase of \$36.4 million in one-time federal and Proposition 64 funds for child care facilities affected by the 2023, 2024, and 2025 natural disasters.

Process and Stakeholder Engagement in Developing Pursuits of Position

The process to develop and monitor the progress of the Pursuit of Position spanned nine months (September 2025 – June 2026), and included the following stakeholder groups:

Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission – 10 meetings

- Identified priority policy issues to elevate for Pursuits of Position
- Informed development of Pursuits of Position
- Approved Pursuits of Position
- Monitored progress of Pursuits of Position and related proposed legislation
 - ✓ Meeting Dates
 1. 9/10/2025
 2. 10/8/2025
 3. 11/12/2025
 4. 12/10/2025
 5. 1/14/2026
 6. 2/11/2026
 7. 3/11/2026 – Pursuits of Position Approved by Roundtable
 8. 4/8/2026
 9. 5/13/2026
 10. 6/10/2026

Planning Committee – 3 meetings

- Informed development of Pursuits of Position
- Monitored progress of Pursuits of Position and related proposed legislation
 - ✓ Meeting Dates
 1. 2/4/2026
 2. 4/1/2026
 3. 6/3/2026

Joint Committee on Legislation – 5 meetings

- Developed recommended policy issues to elevate for Pursuits of Position
- Informed Pursuits of Position
- Monitored progress of Pursuits of Position and related proposed legislation
 - ✓ Meeting Dates
 1. 1/21/2026

2. 2/18/2026
3. 4/2/2026
4. 4/15/2026
5. 5/20/2026

OAECE, DPH Government Affairs, and Legislative Affairs

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

- DPH Government Affairs on average three times a month from February 2026 – June 2026

2) INFORMED BOS 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 Positions.

✓ Meeting Dates

1. 9/16/2025 – Supervisor Horvath, Deputies Elizabeth Shuster and Savannah Portillo
2. 5/11/2026 – Supervisor Horvath, Deputies Elizabeth Shuster and Savannah Portillo
3. 6/8/2026 – Supervisor Hahn, Deputies Nick Holden and Esther Lim
4. 6/9/2026 – Supervisor Mitchell’s Office, Deputy LaJuannah Hills
5. 7/27/2026 – Supervisor Barger’s Office, Supervisor Barger and Monica Banken

3) IMPLEMENTATION OF SERVICE COORDINATION STRATEGY

The Policy Roundtable approved the Service Coordination Strategy on May 14, 2025 (see Attachment A: Policy Roundtable Service Coordination Strategy). The Policy Roundtable developed the Service Coordination Strategy because it recognizes there is an urgent need for better coordination between ECE and other child and family service systems in LA County and the Policy Roundtable. The Policy Roundtable also recognizes that it is well positioned to facilitate cross-sector, multi-agency partnerships designed to build bridges so that child care providers can help parents find the resources and services their families need. The Policy Roundtable implemented the following Service Coordination Strategy actions:

Action #2: Partner with Community Colleges

Commissioner Jessica Perea, Dean of Student Wellness and Resources at Rio Hondo College, provided a presentation on partnering with public institutions of higher education (IHE) to the Policy Roundtable on April 8, 2026. Commissioner Perea shared information on the types of supports public IHE are mandated to offer parents who are college students. The types of supports offered by IHEs for student parents includes but is not limited to: subsidized child care, priority access to child care for student parents, counseling, grants, and academic assistance for low-income students.

Action #3: Infant Toddler Blueprint

Leanne Drogin, Deputy Director of OAECE, provided a presentation on the status of the Early Care and Education Blueprint for Infant/Toddler Care (Blueprint) to the Policy Roundtable on January 14, 2026. Drogin highlighted that the Blueprint’s 20 recommendations are research-based, data-driven, and designed to guide organizations in strengthening the ECE system. Drogin also noted the Policy Roundtable’s key role in shaping the Blueprint’s policy recommendations and shared a status update on the Blueprint’s activities.

Action #4: Women and Families Experiencing Homelessness

Commissioner Chanel Smith, DPH Women and Family Homelessness Senior Advisor, and Lonnie Resser, DPH Office of Planning, Integration, and Engagement Staff Analyst, provided a presentation on changes to LA County's homeless services system to the Policy Roundtable on December 10, 2026. Commissioner Smith noted that LA County established the Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACHSA) and the Department of Homeless Services and Housing. Commissioner Smith also noted that her Office is partnering with OAECE to strengthen coordination between the ECE system and homeless services.

Action #5: Training for County Department Staff

Chair Justin Blakely and OAECE Program Managers Alejandra Berrio and Ida Legesse provided a presentation on the implementation of OAECE's Child Care Choices program to the Policy Roundtable on September 10, 2026. One of the goals of Child Care Choices is to increase LA County staff knowledge about how to find and provide this information to families. Chair Blakeley also provided an update about Child Care Choices Voucher Program which is operated by Crystal Stairs, Inc. Chair Blakely also shared the types of support services that are available for ECE providers and families participating in the Voucher Program.

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.

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PART VIII: APPENDIX

Attachment A: Policy Roundtable Service Coordination Strategy..... 23

Attachment B: Policy Roundtable Ordinance No. 2026-0001..... 29

Attachment C: Policy Roundtable Pursuits of Position FY 2025-26 41

Attachment D: LA County Pursuits of Position April 2026..... 59

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Attachment A:

Policy Roundtable Service Coordination Strategy

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Recommendations from the Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc¹ to Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission

DRAFT – May 2025

Building Bridges for Families with Early Childhood Education and Other Service Needs in Los Angeles County

Understanding that California policy requires Early Childhood Education (ECE) providers in the subsidized sector to help families find health and social services, nutrition and other necessary supports, the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission (Policy Roundtable) recognizes the urgent need for better coordination between ECE and other child and family service systems in Los Angeles County.

Necessary groundwork for the Policy Roundtable’s engagement in this work has been laid in the Department of Public Health’s (DPH), Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) and Policy Roundtable’s Unified Strategic Plan and 2023-24 Annual Report:

“Promote integration across early childhood services and develop strategies that connect early childhood education with other child/family support systems.”²

“The Service Coordination Strategy is designed to promote collaboration and coordination between LA County Departments, across-sectors, and other early childhood focused Commissions. The Policy Roundtable will approve a Strategy and begin implementation of the Strategy.”³

Policy Background and Context

The California Education Code recognizes the importance of social and health services, nutritional supports and parent education as critical elements of high-quality developmentally appropriate ECE programs. Recent legislation also highlights the multiple needs of student parents with minor dependents enrolled in community colleges, state universities and the University of California system.

Education Code, Chapter 2, Early Education Act, Section 8207⁴

The Superintendent shall administer all California state preschool programs. Those programs shall include, but not be limited to, part-day and full-day age and developmentally appropriate programs, offered through child care centers and family child care home education networks, that are designed to facilitate the transition to kindergarten for two-, three-, and four-year-old children and that provide

¹ Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc (Ad Hoc) members: Jacquelyn McCroskey, Commission for Children and Families; Jessica Perea, First Supervisorial District & Rio Hondo Community College; Nurhan Pirim, Department of Public Social Services; Paul Pulver, Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles & Options for Learning; and Steve Sturm, Department of Children and Family Services.

² Plan Policy Roundtable, Child Care Planning Committee, and OAECE LA County Unified ECE Strategic.

³ Policy Roundtable Annual Report 23-24, Policy Roundtable goals for 24-25.

⁴ EDUCATION CODE - EDC

TITLE 1 GENERAL EDUCATION CODE PROVISIONS

DIVISION 1 GENERAL EDUCATION CODE PROVISIONS

PART 6. EDUCATION PROGRAMS—STATE MASTER PLANS

CHAPTER 2. Early Education Act

early learning and care, health services, social services, nutritional services, parent education and parent participation, evaluation, and staff development, and that comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

Further provisions specify that California state preschool programs shall include all of the following: 1) Age- and developmentally appropriate activities for children; 2) Supervision; 3) Parenting education and parent engagement; 4) Social services that include, but are not limited to, identification of child and family needs and referral to appropriate agencies; 5) Health services; 6) Nutrition; and 7) Training and career ladder opportunities, documentation of which shall be provided to the department.

These provisions apply to all state subsidized child care programs, regardless of the contract type.

Recent Policy Highlighting the Needs of Student Parents

Assembly Bill 2881 (2022) requires California community colleges to provide priority registration to student parents with minor dependents. The definition of student parent has been expanded to cover sibling care, extended family and alternative parenting arrangements. Colleges are required to establish student parent webpages highlighting available resources and supports, including CalFresh, the California Earned Income Tax Credit, the Young Child Tax Credit and the California Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, infants and Children (WIC).

Assembly Bill 2458 (2024) requires Community Colleges and State Universities - and requests University of California campuses - to update websites for student parents to include on- and off-campus resources and services, develop and implement a cost of attendance adjustment policy for student parents. and report data to the Chancellor's or President's Office for inclusion in the California Cradle to Career Data System.

Proposed Legislation for Legislative Session 2025-2026

Senate Bill 271 (2025) would require Community Colleges, Cal State universities and University of California campuses to expand the responsibility of campus-based Basic Needs Centers and Coordinators to provide "basic needs and services" including but not limited to, housing, food, clothing, feminine hygiene, diapers, technology, child care and mental health services and resources. Basic Needs Centers would be required to partner with existing local agencies to support students seeking child care subsidies and finding care for their children. The bill would require campuses to work with the local Child Care Planning Council and Resource and Referral agency to support students applying for subsidized child care and finding care. The bill would also require Basic Needs Centers, financial aid offices and child development centers (if applicable) to inform student parents seeking support about the full scope of services available on campus.

The Policy Roundtable, with its membership of leading ECE providers, advocates, municipalities, school districts, advocates and County departments⁵ is well positioned to facilitate cross-sector, multi-agency

⁵ Membership includes representatives from: Departments of Children and Family Services, Mental Health, Probation, Parks and Recreation, Public Health, Public Social Services; LA County Child Care Planning Committee; Chief Executive Office; LA County Office of Education; LA Unified School District; Southern California Chapter – California Association for the Education of Young Children; Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles; Commission for Children and Families; First 5 LA; and Child 360.

partnerships designed to build bridges so that child care providers can help parents find the resources and services their families need

The Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc (Ad Hoc) recommends the following five high-priority action steps:

1. Partner with the Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee (PPSGC)

PPSGC was created by the Board of Supervisors in 2023 to improve cross-departmental and cross-sector collaboration and coordination, and to make strategic investments in infrastructure, resources, supports and opportunities that prevent negative outcomes and promote holistic well-being. The Board's vision is to deliver an equitable, community-driven, and holistic prevention and promotion model to enable safer, stronger, thriving, and more connected communities.

The PPSGC has adopted three focus areas including Child Welfare and Family Well-Being, Behavioral Health and Homelessness. Activities that fall under the Child Welfare and Family Well-Being domain include helping families – particularly those with children ages 0-5 – find the economic supports, services and resources they need, seeding cross-sector collaboration and community partnerships, and advocating for policy changes to support the needs of children and families in Los Angeles County. The three standing tables under development are 1) Policy and Advocacy, 2) Family First Prevention Services Implementation, and 3) Data and Evaluation. Projected workgroups include Systems Alignment, Concrete Supports and Economic Well-Being, and Barriers to Capacity Assessment.

Action: Interested Commissioners would volunteer to serve on standing tables and workgroups, enhancing alignment across sectors, and reporting back to the Roundtable on a quarterly or biannual basis.

Select Commissioner(s) would participate on PPSGC's Policy Advocacy Table in order to inform and develop alignment between child care policy recommendations developed by the Policy Roundtable and Child Care Planning Committee with those considered by the PPSGC. Select Commissioners would also participate on other tables and/or workgroups as appropriate (as suggested during initial discussions with PPSGC and partner agency staff).

2. Partner with Community Colleges

Collaborate with community colleges to assure that Coordinators and Basic Needs Centers have up-to-date information on resources for parenting students provided by County departments and their contractors that may be especially useful for parenting students. Information on additional resources provided by other Roundtable member agencies would also be collected for inclusion in regular information exchanges.

Action: Collect data on the information needs of community colleges through individual interviews or focus groups and develop plans for ongoing information exchange and connect County services.

3. Infant Toddler Blueprint

In 2023, the Board of Supervisors directed the Department of Public Health through the OAECE to develop a blueprint to fortify the infant and toddler child care system. The Policy Roundtable informed the policy recommendations that were included in the final report - *Blueprint Identifying Immediate and Long-Term Efforts to Fortify the Infant and Toddler Care System*.⁶

⁶ Submitted to the Board of Supervisors in March 2024.

Action: The Policy Roundtable will receive an annual or biannual update from the OAECE on the progress of the Blueprint's policy recommendations and will provide recommendations to the OAECE, identifying opportunities for support policy action and responses from their respective organizations/departments/networks.

4. Women and Families Experiencing Homelessness

The Policy Roundtable identified that families experiencing homelessness need improved access to developmentally-appropriate child care programs. In October 2024, the Director of DPH's Women and Families Experiencing Homelessness program presented to the Policy Roundtable, providing an overview of LA County's homelessness services system and steps toward better coordination with the child care system, acknowledging that there has been limited coordination to date between the two systems.

Action #1: The Policy Roundtable will assist OAECE in developing County-wide strategy to help families access child care and strengthen coordination between systems.

Action #2: The Policy Roundtable will receive annual or biannual presentations on progress in developing and implementing the Child Care Service Coordination Strategy for families experiencing homelessness. The Policy Roundtable will identify opportunities for Commissioners to support strategy activities within their respective organizations/departments/networks, as well as identifying Commission actions that can further support the strategy.

5. Training for County Department Staff

The OAECE receives funding from the County's Care First Community Investment Initiative to increase the knowledge base of LA County staff in identifying child care programs that are available, affordable and accessible for families, along with skills in navigating the County's complex and multi-faceted early childhood education system. Specifically, LA County staff will receive training on the types of child care, ways to share child care information with families, and eligibility requirements for subsidized child care. Training is underway to provide training to the following County departments – including the Departments of Public Social Services, Parks and Recreation, Economic Opportunity, Public Health, and Board of Supervisors Offices. As of March 2025, more than 160 County staff across multiple departments participated in the training.

Action: The Policy Roundtable will receive an annual or biannual presentation by OAECE on the implementation of this training program, including feedback from trainees. The Policy Roundtable will identify opportunities for cross-departmental training partnerships, collaboration with ECE providers and community leaders. Commissioners - particularly those representing departments or county offices - will support training activities within their respective organizations and departments. Commissioners would also discuss improvements that would increase support for staff learning how to navigate the ECE system and help County staff develop relationships with local networks as needed.

Background on Commission Mission, Duties, and Responsibilities

Note: The Ad Hoc's recommendations strongly support the Policy Roundtable's Mission and Duties/Responsibilities.

3.75.090: 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

3.75.1000: 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 child 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.

Attachment B:

Policy Roundtable Ordinance No. 2026-0001

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ANALYSIS

This Ordinance amends Title 3 – Advisory Commissions and Committees of the Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 3.75, relating to the Policy Roundtable for Child Care, by establishing new and revised policies to align with changes in the Policy Roundtable. The ordinance:

- Replaces outdated information and organizations;
- Updates membership expertise and experience categories, term limits and quorum requirements, conflict of interest, and sunset review date;
- Removes and/or adds organizations and County Departments;
- Clarifies the number of members nominated by each Board of Supervisor;
- Adds additional childcare entities to list of nominated organizational representatives; and
- Removes requirement to have sub-committees.

DAWYN R. HARRISON
County Counsel

By 
CRAIG KIRKWOOD
Deputy County Counsel
Health Services Division

CK:er

Requested: 3/27/25
Revised: 10/15/25

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-0001

An Ordinance amending Title 3 – Advisory Commissions and Committees of the Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 3.75, relating to the Policy Roundtable for Child Care, by establishing new and revised policies to align with changes in the Policy Roundtable.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 3.75 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Chapter 3.75 POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE AND
DEVELOPMENT

SECTION 2. Section 3.75.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.75.010 Creation.

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

SECTION 3. Section 3.75.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.75.020 Members.

The rRoundtable 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
Planning Council (LPC) or a member designated by the LPC Chair;

B. One County/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 non-County organization representative nominated by each of the following entities:

10. Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles, ~~comprised of the 8 state-funded child care resource and referral agencies,~~

11. Southern California Association for the Education of Young Children,

12. Commission for Children and Families,

13. Los Angeles Children and Families First Proposition

10 Commission (also known as First 5 LA);

14. ~~Los Angeles Universal Preschool~~Service Employees International Union Local 99;

CD. One~~Ten~~ members, two nominated by each member of the Board and selected based on background, knowledge, expertise and/or experience in child care, early childhood education, or child development fields. ~~Each member of the Board shall~~

~~nominate a member from that category listed below assigned to the member of the Board by lottery conducted in a manner designated by the executive office of the Board~~
The Board of Supervisor nominees must also meet one of the following categories:

1. Academia or research,
2. Private business sector,
3. Philanthropic organization (charitable organization or foundation

focused on children and families),

4. Community or legal advocacy,
5. Child care (from at least one of the following subcategories):
 - a. Faith-based child care center operator,
 - b. Employer-supported child care center operator,
 - c. Family child care center operator,
 - d. Family, Friends, and Neighbor, licensed exempt provider,
 - e. Resource and Referral Agency,
 - f. Alternative Payment Provider;

~~D. Five members, one nominated by each member of the Board and selected from any of the following categories, with background, knowledge, expertise, and/or experience in child care, early childhood education, or child development:~~

- ~~1. Faith-based child care center operator,~~
- ~~2. Employer-supported child care center operator,~~
- ~~3. Family child care program operator,~~

~~4. Private or public child care center operator,~~

56. Child care advocate,

67. Parent,

~~7. Demographer,~~

8. Early Care and Education 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 in Section 3.75.020 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 ~~BC~~, as non-County organization representatives of non-County entities, may also identify an alternate to

vote in the member's absence by completing the appropriate ~~r~~Roundtable-approved alternate designation form in advance of the meeting at which the alternate may vote.

3. Members appointed pursuant to subsections ~~C~~ and D of this section, shall not be able to identify an alternate to vote in the member's absence.

SECTION 4. Section 3.75.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.75.030 Term of ~~s~~Service.

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

~~B. At its first meeting, the members of the roundtable shall classify themselves, excluding the members described in Section 3.75.020 A and B, by lot, so that half of the members shall serve an initial term of two years, and the remaining half of the members shall serve a term of four years. After the initial term, the term of each member shall be four years.~~
Term Limits for members described in Section 3.75.020 C 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. With the exception of the members described in Section 3.75.020 A and B, no member of the roundtable may serve more than two consecutive full terms of service. For purposes of this section, an initial two-year term served by a member shall not count as a full term served.~~
Members described in Section 3.75.020 B will not have Term Limits.

D. A member's position on the ~~r~~Roundtable shall become vacant upon the member's death, resignation, or removal by the ~~b~~Board; or in the event the member's employment or status no longer meets the membership criteria set forth in

Section 3.75.020; or in the event the member develops a conflict of interest described below and is not granted a finding of special circumstances. If such a vacancy should occur, the appointed successor, nominated pursuant to Section 3.75.040, shall ~~complete the remainder of the term~~ have their first term begin when their appointment is approved by the Board.

E. Term Limits for members described in Section 3.75.020 D 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.

SECTION 5. Section 3.75.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.75.050 Conflict of ~~i~~nterest.

No individual shall be appointed to the ~~r~~Roundtable if that individual or an agency ~~he or she~~they represents or in which ~~he or she~~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 ~~r~~Roundtable, unless the ~~b~~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 ~~b~~Board has made the special finding required above, the member shall abstain from participating in any analysis, discussion, decision, or recommendation affecting such interest.

SECTION 6. Section 3.75.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.75.060 Staff.

The ~~r~~Roundtable shall be supported by staff of the ~~office of child care within the chief administrative office~~Department of Public Health's Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education.

SECTION 7. Section 3.75.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.75.070 **Sunset ~~r~~Review ~~d~~Date.**

The first sunset review date for the ~~r~~Roundtable shall be June 30, 2030. Sunset Review will occur every four years thereafter.

SECTION 8. Section 3.75.080 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.75.080 **Operating ~~p~~Procedures.**

The ~~r~~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 ~~r~~Roundtable's activities and operation. A quorum of the ~~r~~Roundtable shall be a majority (more than 50 percent) of the ~~r~~Roundtable members who have been appointed, and their identified alternatives ~~but in no event shall a quorum be less than eight.~~

SECTION 9. Section 3.75.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.75.100 **Duties and ~~r~~Responsibilities.**

The ~~r~~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 ~~s~~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 County, ~~s~~State and federal legislative and budget issues related to child care and development. The ~~r~~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.

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, ~~r~~Roundtable recommendations, and Board actions.

SECTION 10. Section 3.75.110 is hereby deleted in its entirety:

~~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.~~

[375010CKCC]

SECTION 11. This ordinance shall be published in The Daily Commerce a newspaper printed and published in the County of Los Angeles.



Hilda L. Solis

Chair

ATTEST:

Edward Yen

Edward Yen
Executive Officer -
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles

I hereby certify that at its meeting of January 13, 2026 the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of said County of Los Angeles by the following vote, to wit:

Ayes

Supervisors Hilda L. Solis
Holly J. Mitchell
Lindsey P. Horvath
Janice Hahn
Kathryn Barger

Noes

Supervisors None

Effective Date: February 12, 2026
Operative
Date:

Edward Yen

Edward Yen
Executive Officer -
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles

I hereby certify that pursuant to
Section 25103 of the Government Code,
Delivery of this document has been made.



EDWARD YEN
Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DAWYN R. HARRISON
County Counsel

By

Robert Cartwright

Robert Cartwright
Senior Assistant County Counsel

By Cristal
Deputy

Attachment C:

Policy Roundtable Pursuits of Position FY 2025-26

DRAFT

RECOMMENDED PURSUIT OF POSITIONS – PROPOSED LEGISLATION AND GOVERNOR’S 2026-27 PROPOSED BUDGET: 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 positions to increase access to and strengthen the ECE system:

- 1) Support AB 1981 and similar measures that require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide a definitive timeline and annual updates regarding CDSS’s transition to new reimbursement rates based on the alternative methodology
- 2) Support AB 2379 and similar measures that strengthen protections for immigrant child care providers and the children they serve by notifying child care providers of their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement
- 3) Support proposed FY 2026-2027 Budget item and similar measures that strengthen child care infrastructure, specifically targeted toward communities impacted by recent fires

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

- 1) Support AB 1981 and similar measures that require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide a definitive timeline and annual updates regarding CDSS’s transition to new reimbursement rates based on the alternative methodology**

Summary Analysis of Proposed Legislation

Current child care subsidy reimbursement rates do not cover the full cost of operating ECE programs serving income eligible families. As a result, early educators earn inadequate wages and have few benefits thereby driving early educators away from the profession, as well as deter new people from entering the ECE workforce. In California, 65 percent of the ECE workforce are women of color.¹ According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2023 California was home to more than 37,000 child care workers and the average annual salary for this workforce was \$40,060.² By comparison, the living wage in Los Angeles County for a single adult with one child is \$101,200.³ The California ECE Workforce Study also found that in 2023, 50 percent of early educators in family child care homes, 38 percent of Assistants/Aides in early education centers, and 29 percent of teachers in early education centers participated in at least one or more public assistance programs.⁴

¹ 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://csce.berkeley.edu/publications/report/effects-of-racism-on-california-early-educators>

² U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics Query System. March 2, 2025 <https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/occGeo/One%20occupation%20for%20multiple%20geographical%20areas>

³ Living Wage Calculation for Los Angeles County, California. (2025). Massachusetts Institute of Technology. March 2, 2025 <https://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/06037>

⁴ Muruvi, W., Powell, A., Kim, Y., Coperman Petig, A., and Austin, L., The Economic Well-Being of Early Educators in California (2024). Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. March 2, 2025 <https://csce.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/CA-economic-wellbeing-2024-1.pdf>

Many families struggle to find the child care they need. In 2023, more than 85 percent (1.8 million) of California's children eligible for subsidized child care were not accessing these services.⁵ Inadequate reimbursement rates suppress wages causing an ECE workforce shortage and limited supply of programs to meet child care needs of working families.

Welfare and Institutions Code section 10227.6 (i) states that the Governor and Legislature shall, by no later than July 1, 2025, establish reimbursement rates based on the alternative methodology and if the new reimbursement rates established do not take effect on July 1, 2025, the CDSS shall provide the Legislature with the department's anticipated timeline for transitioning from the rates that are in effect on July 1, 2025, to the new reimbursement rates established and new reimbursement rates have not been established. A timeline to transition from the current regional market reimbursement rate methodology based on "how much parents can pay" to the new reimbursement rates based on a "cost estimation model" has not been provided to the Governor nor the Legislature. This delay is resulting in continued implementation of inadequate reimbursement rates for ECE providers compounded by the absence of a definitive timeline for transitioning to the alternative methodology. To address this, Assembly Bill (AB 1981), introduced by Assembly Majority Leader Aguiar-Curry, requires DPSS to provide the Chairperson of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee the department's timeline for transitioning from the current reimbursement rates to the new reimbursement rates by January 31, 2027, and every subsequent year until the rates established in section 10227.6 (i) are in effect.

Justification

The State of California has committed to transition how it calculates its subsidized child care 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 recommended that Los Angeles County support AB 1981 and similar measures that require the state to be explicit about the implementation timeline of the new reimbursement rates. Publicly provided information about progress toward implementing the new reimbursement rate methodology will help recruit and retain valuable ECE staff to serve children. Organizations supporting AB 1981 and implementation of the cost of care reimbursement rate alternative methodology include Early Edge California and Early Care and Education Coalition.

- 2) **Support AB 2379 and similar measures that strengthen protections for immigrant child care providers and the children they serve by notifying child care providers of their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement**

Summary Analysis of Proposed Legislation

Nearly 50 percent of Los Angeles County child care providers are immigrants and one in two children in the Los Angeles Metro Area has at least one immigrant parent.^{6,7} California students have the right to attend public school in the State free from discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, and bullying (CA Education Code [EC] 220, 234, et seq.). The threat of immigration

⁵ Pryor, L. and Schumacher K., The Unmet Need for Child Care Remains Staggeringly High (2025). California Budget & Policy Center. March 2, 2025 <https://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/the-unmet-need-for-child-care-remains-staggeringly-high/>

⁶ Ali, U., Brown, J., and Herbst, C., Secure Communities as Immigration Enforcement: How Secure is the Child Care Market? (2024). Journal of Public Economics. March 2, 2025 <https://docs.iza.org/dp15821.pdf>

⁷ Profile of the Foreign-born Population in Los Angeles, California (2023), Vera Institute of Justice. March 2, 2025 <https://vera-institute.files.svdcn.com/production/downloads/publications/profile-of-foreign-born-population-los-angeles-long-beach.pdf>

enforcement can impair the ability of students, regardless of their immigration status, to thrive and receive an equitable education.⁸ Deportation threats can negatively impact children's mental and physical health and long-term development as well as the health and well-being of early educators. Family child care homes are essential to Los Angeles County's child care system, particularly for working and immigrant families. These ECE providers care for children in their homes which makes them uniquely vulnerable to intimidation, misinformation, and unlawful searches or arrests by law enforcement, including federal immigration authorities. Without clear, accessible education of their rights, ECE providers may unknowingly allow unlawful entry into their homes or feel pressured to comply with actions that violate constitutional protections. Fear and confusion around immigration enforcement can force ECE providers to close their doors, disrupting care for families and putting children at risk. Assembly Bill 2379, introduced by Assemblymember Solache, seeks to provide licensed and license-exempt family child care providers with information about their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement to protect themselves, the children in their care, and the families they serve. Specifically, AB 2379 will:

- Require CDSS to notify all licensed and license-exempt family child care providers of their Fourth Amendment rights
- Require development of a plain-language, multilingual training program for child care providers on their rights and responsibilities
- Require child care providers to complete this training within specified timeframes to ensure consistent statewide understanding of their rights
- Take effect immediately as an urgency statute to protect access to child care without fear of harassment or unwarranted searches

Justification

AB 2379, also known as Family Daycare Homes: Fourth Amendment Training, builds on California's law that recognizes child care sites as sensitive locations. Passage of AB 2379 and similar measures to protect immigrant child care providers and the families they serve will help child care doors remain open and safe from intimidation, misinformation, and unlawful searches or arrests by law enforcement, including federal immigration authorities. Early Edge California is supporting AB 2379 and Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 99 – Child Care Providers Union (CCPU) is preparing a support letter for AB 2379.

3) Support proposed FY 2026-2027 Budget item and similar measures that strengthen child care infrastructure, specifically targeted toward communities impacted by recent fires

Summary Analysis of Proposed FY 2026-2027 Budget Item

In January 2025, the Los Angeles County wildfires severely impacted the child care sector, reducing the system's capacity in the County by 2,802 licensed ECE spaces. According to California Community Care Licensing, licensed child care providers submitted 339 incident reports documenting a wide range of impacts from the fires. Across Los Angeles County, 42 ECE licensed facilities were destroyed, including 23 centers and 19 family child care homes. In addition, nine ECE-licensed facilities were significantly damaged (6 centers, 3 family child care homes), and 30 license-exempt Family, Friends, and Neighbors (FFN) providers were impacted. According to Pasadena Community Foundation's (PCF) Six-Month Impact Report of the Eaton Fire, "Child care providers and their client families are among those most profoundly impacted by

⁸ Joy Ee, J. and Gandara, P., Under Siege: The Disturbing Impact of Immigration Enforcement on the Nation's Schools (2020). Immigration Initiative at Harvard. March 2, 2025 https://immigrationinitiative.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/brief_2_english.pdf

the Eaton Fire.”⁹ PCF also reports that more than half of the licensed family child care home facilities in Altadena were damaged or destroyed, “while 60 percent of the spaces previously available for children are no longer available.”¹⁰ ECE providers are essential to the recovery of these areas and their ability to reopen allows families to return to work and the area, children regain stability, and neighborhoods rebuild. ECE programs operate on slim margins and most do not have the resources to rebuild or repair their facilities without financial support. A few organizations have provided financial support to child care providers impacted by the fires to re-establish their programs and while this funding has been helpful it does not go far enough. For example, the Low Income Investment Fund’s LA Rise program provided \$1.3 million in grant funding to help ECE providers impacted by the fires rebuild and reopen; however, applicants who applied for grants had more than \$14 million in damages.¹¹ The Governor’s Budget Summary 2026-27 includes “an increase of \$11.5 million one-time Proposition 64 funding for child care infrastructure, specifically targeted toward communities impacted by recent fires.”¹²

Justification

According to the 2022 Los Angeles County ECE Needs Assessment, Los Angeles County only has licensed capacity through centers and family child care homes to serve 4 percent of children ages birth to 23 months and 26 percent to serve children ages two to five.¹³ The Los Angeles County wildfires significantly reduced the already limited capacity to serve young children in fire impacted areas. Additionally, many child care providers impacted by the fires want to return and reopen but do not have the financial resources to rebuild or repair damaged facilities or renovate a space to move into. The proposed \$11.5 million funding included in the Governor’s Budget Summary 2026-27 will be critical to helping ECE programs rebuild, reopen, and help families regain stability. Organizations supporting the \$11.5 million one-time funding for child care infrastructure geared towards communities impacted by the recent fires include: UNITE-LA and Early Care and Education Coalition.

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) Support AB 1981 and similar measures that require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide a definitive timeline and annual updates regarding CDSS’s transition to new reimbursement rates based on the alternative methodology
- 2) Support AB 2379 and similar measures that strengthen protections for immigrant child care providers and the children they serve by notifying child care providers of their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement
- 3) Support proposed FY 2026-2027 Budget item and similar measures that strengthen child care infrastructure, specifically targeted toward communities impacted by recent fires

⁹ Pasadena Community Foundation, *Resilience: Six-Month Impact Report, Eaton Relief and Recovery Fund*. July 7, 2025. https://pasadenacf.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/PCF-201.pdf?utm_source=

¹⁰ Pasadena Community Foundation, *Resilience: Six-Month Impact Report, Eaton Relief and Recovery Fund*. July 7, 2025. https://pasadenacf.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/PCF-201.pdf?utm_source=

¹¹ Los Angeles Recovery and Investment in Service of Early Care and Education (LA Rise) Fund, Fact Sheet. February 28, 2026.

¹² Governor’s Budget Summary 2026-27. March 2, 2026. <https://ebudget.ca.gov/2026-27/pdf/BudgetSummary/FullBudgetSummary.pdf>

¹³ California County Local Child Care Planning Council Needs Assessment – Los Angeles, prepared by Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education. February 26, 2026. <https://childcare.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Child-Care-Needs-Assessment-Los-Angeles-County-FINAL-11.3.22.pdf>

County Legislative Policy

These positions are consistent with the Los Angeles County 2025 State Legislative Platform:

Human Services

- Increase access to high-quality ECE services provided by a qualified and well compensated workforce.
- Increase and expand eligibility, including the elimination of immigration status restrictions, and decrease enrollment barriers, simplify eligibility determination and income reporting requirements, and/or increase automation and information sharing with state agencies.

Equity

- Address and combat discrimination based on age, disability, disease status, gender identity, language, immigration status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or other protected characteristics.

Justice, Public Safety, and Emergency Management Systems

- Improve wildfire prevention and fire safety services, including but not limited to, measures to increase financial assistance training, and other resources for local response.

Public Services and Infrastructure

- Prioritize disaster risk mitigation, prevention, and response efforts appropriate for urban and rural communities.

Supporting Materials

1. “AB – 1981 The True Cost of Child Care Act Fact Sheet” by Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguilar-Curry (attached)
2. Early Edge California AB 1981 Letter of Support (attached)
3. Early Care and Education Coalition Budget Request Letter (attached)
4. “AB 2379, Protecting Family Child Care Provider’s Constitutional Rights Fact Sheet” by Assembly Jose Luis Solache, Jr. (attached)
5. Early Edge California Letter of Support for AB 2379 (Solache & Carrillo) as amended on March 23, 2026
6. UNITE-LA Letter of Support for \$11.5 Million One-Time Funding for Child Care Infrastructure Geared Towards Communities Impacted by Recent Fires (attached)
7. Los Angeles Recovery and Investment in Service of Early Care and Education (LA Rise Fund) Fact Sheet (attached)

Additional Sources

- Ali, U., Brown, J., and Herbst, C., Secure Communities as Immigration Enforcement: How Secure is the Child Care Market? (2024). Journal of Public Economics. March 2, 2025 <https://docs.iza.org/dp15821.pdf>
- California County Local Child Care Planning Council Needs Assessment – Los Angeles, prepared by Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education. February 26, 2026. <https://childcare.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Child-Care-Needs-Assessment-Los-Angeles-County-FINAL-11.3.22.pdf>
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- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics Query System. March 2, 2025 <https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/occGeo/One%20occupation%20for%20multiple%20geographical%20areas>



CECILIA AGUIAR-CURRY
Assembly Majority Leader, District 4



FACT SHEET

AB 1981 – The True Cost of Child Care Act

SUMMARY

Under existing law, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) must set childcare reimbursement rates based on the true cost of care and establish an implementation timeline. AB 1981 strengthens this requirement by mandating CDSS submit a definitive reimbursement timeline to the legislature by January 31, 2027, and update it annually to ensure accountability, fair provider compensation, and expanded access to affordable childcare.

BACKGROUND

Childcare is critical to California's workforce and economy. Research shows public investments in childcare generate strong returns by increasing maternal labor force participation and supporting children's development. Yet, childcare remains unaffordable and scarce, with families often spending 20 to 30 percent of their income—far exceeding the federal benchmark of 7 percent. Lacking reliable and affordable options, many parents—especially mothers—reduce hours or leave the workforce entirely.

At the same time, reimbursement rates often fail to cover the true cost of providing safe, high-quality care with fairly paid staff. Licensed infant care costs about 40 percent more than subsidies or family payments cover. Nearly all providers—98 percent women and over 70 percent women of color—earn less than \$16 per hour and rarely receive benefits, fueling high turnover and limiting available slots. Often earning less and holding lower-paid positions, providers of color are disproportionately impacted, deepening inequities in access and compensation.

For years, providers, parents, advocates, the legislature, and the Legislative Women's Caucus have worked to address these challenges. In 2019, Governor Newsom signed AB 378 (Limon), allowing family childcare providers to unionize through the Child Care Providers

United (CCPU), which continues to advocate for higher rates and health benefits for all providers.

In 2023, the state eliminated family fees for households earning below 75 percent of the State Median Income and expanded subsidies and childcare slots. Most recently, California committed to reforming reimbursement rates through an Alternative Methodology process led by CDSS to assess and implement rates based on the true cost of care.

PROBLEM

CDSS, in coordination with the California Department of Education, sets reimbursement rates and standards for subsidized childcare and development services. Current law required the administration to establish the new rates using the Alternative Methodology by July 1, 2025. Because the rates were not implemented by that date, CDSS must now provide the legislature with a transition timeline, but the law does not specify when that timeline must be submitted.

THIS BILL

AB 1981 requires CDSS submit a timeline for transitioning to the new reimbursement rates by January 31, 2027, and update it annually until rate implementation is complete. By establishing a clear and accountable process, the bill advances rates that reflect the true cost of care and helps stabilize the childcare workforce. As HR 1 imposes new work requirements for federal social safety net programs, reliable childcare is increasingly critical to helping families maintain eligibility and avoid deeper poverty.

SUPPORT

Child Care Provider United (CCPU)

SEIU Local 99

SEIU Local 521

United Domestic Workers (UDW)/AFSCME Local 3930



CECILIA AGUIAR-CURRY
Assembly Majority Leader, District 4



FACT SHEET

AB 1981 – The True Cost of Child Care Act

CONTACT

Shannon Flores, Legislative Director
Office of Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
E: shannon.flores@asm.ca.gov | P: (916) 319-2004



FACT SHEET

AB 2379, Protecting Family Child Care Providers' Constitutional Rights

SUMMARY

AB 2379 ensures licensed and license-exempt family child care providers are clearly informed of their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement.

AB 2379 requires the Department of Social Services to notify providers of their Fourth Amendment protections and to coordinate accessible, multilingual training delivered by an experienced statewide child care entity. The training will ensure providers understand their rights regarding searches, seizures, arrests, and detentions in their homes.

PROBLEM

The Trump administration's inhumane deportation raids have spread fear across our communities, disrupted our workforce, and threatened access to vital child care services for both families and providers. Family child care homes are essential to California's child care system, especially for working-class and immigrant families. These providers care for children in their own homes, meaning their workplaces are also their private residences. Yet, there is no consistent system in place to ensure they receive clear guidance and protection, creating instability that can disrupt care for families and put children at risk.

California law already recognizes child care sites as sensitive locations. But for family child care providers operating out of their homes, those protections are often unclear or not clearly communicated. Fear and confusion around immigration enforcement can force providers to close their doors, disrupting care for families and putting children at risk.

Without clear, accessible education on their rights, providers may unknowingly allow unlawful entry

into their homes or feel pressured to comply with actions that violate constitutional protections.

SOLUTION

AB 2379 builds on existing sensitive location protections by ensuring family child care providers have the information and tools they need to protect themselves, the children in their care, and the families they serve. Specifically, the bill requires the Department of Social Services to:

- Requires DSS to notify all licensed and license-exempt family child care providers of their Fourth Amendment rights
- Requires development of a plain-language, multilingual training program for providers on their rights and responsibilities
- Requires providers to complete this training within specified timeframes to ensure consistent statewide understanding of rights.
- Takes effect immediately as an urgency statute to protect access to child care without fear of harassment or unwarranted searches

By educating providers of their constitutional rights, the bill helps keep child care doors open and safe from intimidation, misinformation, and unlawful searches or arrests by law enforcement, including federal immigration authorities.

SUPPORT

Child Care Providers United (Sponsor)

SEIU- CA (Sponsor)

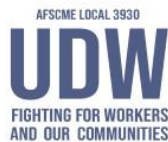
United Domestic Workers/AFSCME Local 3930 (Sponsor)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Aurora Saldivar, Legislative Director

(916) 319-2062 | Aurora.Saldivar@asm.ca.gov

Updated: 3/11/26



March 23, 2026

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

The Honorable Monique Limón
Senate President pro Tempore
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Speaker of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

This is a defining time in our nation when history will judge us for the treatment of marginalized Californians: immigrants, mixed-status families, Black, Brown, and Indigenous families, and women. Today, [California has the highest poverty rate](#) in the nation, tied only with State of Louisiana. Child poverty has increased from 7.5% in 2021 to 18.6% in 2024, due in part to the loss of the federal child tax credit. The cost of Early Care and Education (ECE) [pushes families into poverty](#), but expanding access to ECE, particularly in single-parent households, can [reduce childhood poverty rates](#). Recent census data shows a ten percent poverty gap between Black and Latinx Californians and white Californians – this gap will only increase with the implementation of H.R. 1, “One Big Beautiful Bill Act.”

Families do not neatly fit into one budget line item. The families and [providers](#) we serve are the same families who also access CalWORKs benefits, food banks, WIC, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, or health care coverage through Covered California. These [California families](#) are being disproportionately harmed by H.R. 1. To meet their basic needs, parents and guardians will have to seek a second, or even third, job which means they need access to child care to work.

To meet the basic needs of children, families, and child care providers, the ECE Coalition is requesting:

- Fund the remaining 77,000 spaces promised in the 2021-22 Budget Act. Specifically, 44,000 in 2026-27 and 33,000 in 2027-28, as [codified in statute](#), thereby ensuring no family is disenrolled from care.
- Rate reform must be grounded in a Cost of Care Alternative Methodology that accurately reflects the real-world costs of providing child care, is updated regularly, regionally responsive, and protective of current rates.

- Adopt the \$11.5 million, funded by Proposition 64 dollars, proposed in the Governor's Budget for ECE providers who were affected by the LA wildfire.
- Adopt the \$89 million proposed in the Governor's Budget for a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA). We look forward to working together to develop COLA trailer bill languages.

The [California Budget and Policy Center](#) has calculated that 1.8 million children are eligible for publicly funded care but do not have access to care, worsening racial inequities and affordability challenges for families statewide. Providers and parents agree on the need for both an investment in spaces and the adoption of an Alternative Rate Methodology, simultaneously. Families are beginning to see the reintroduction of family co-payments, which is an indicator that our current rate system is not working, and providers' expenses are not keeping pace with rate increases.

Finally, we are seeking clarity on several administrative issues: the funding reductions to Child Care Development Funds, Proposition 64, the need for mid-year transfers, and funding for CCTR spaces. We are concerned that, without attending to this dynamic funding situation, families could be disenrolled from care. Our goal is to maximize funding for spaces that have already been funded, ensuring as many families as possible are stabilized and receive the child care they need.

Sincerely,

Early Care and Education (ECE) Coalition

Cc:

Joe Stephenshaw, Director, Department of Finance

Jennifer Troia, Director, Department of Social Services

Senator John Laird, Chair, Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review

Senator Caroline Menjivar, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3 on Health and Human Services

Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel, Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget

Assemblymember Dr. Corey Jackson, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Human Services

Assemblymember David Alvarez, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Education Finance

Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair of the Legislative Women's Caucus



March 18, 2026

The Honorable Alex Lee
Chair, Assembly Human Services Committee
1020 N Street, Room 122
Sacramento, CA 95814

213-652-8585
earlyedgecalifornia.org
linktr.ee/earlyedaeca

RE: SUPPORT for Assembly Bill 1981 as introduced on February 13, 2026

Early Edge California—a statewide organization that advocates for policies and investments in Early Learning and Care—is writing in **SUPPORT of Assembly Bill 1981 (Aguiar-Curry)**, which would require the Department of Social Services to provide the Joint Legislative Budget Committee with its timeline to implement the alternative methodology, a critical step toward achieving rate reform that reflects the true cost of care for early educators.

The most pressing factor fueling California's dire child care crisis is the chronic underpayment of the Early Learning and Care (ELC) workforce, a field devastated by cuts during the Great Recession that has yet to fully recover. Despite significant state investments in ELC in recent years, inadequate compensation remains the primary driver that stifles our state's ELC workforce and directly impacts access to care for families who need it most. Increasing compensation will lead to much-needed recruitment and retention of providers, help stabilize the workforce, expand access to care, and improve quality of care.

The child care crisis in California is so severe that 43 percent of early educators must rely on public assistance programs to make ends meet ([McLean et al., 2024](#)), underscoring how unsustainable compensation in the field has become, at a time when only 16 percent of eligible children are enrolled in subsidized child care programs ([Pryor & Schumacher, 2026](#)), leaving many low-income families without access to quality child care they desperately need.

We cannot afford to delay the implementation and funding of the alternative methodology. It is imperative that we review both the methodology itself and its anticipated timeline to ensure the true cost of care is fully reflected into the single rate structure that the alternative methodology will ultimately inform.

For these reasons, Early Edge California is proud to support AB 1981 and respectfully requests your **AYE** vote when the bill comes before you in committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PATRICIA LOZANO".

Patricia Lozano
Executive Director
Early Edge California



April 1, 2026

Honorable Alex Lee
Chair, Assembly Human Services
1020 N Street, Room 122
Sacramento, CA 95814

213-652-8585
earlyedgecalifornia.org
linktr.ee/earlyedaeca

RE: SUPPORT AB 2379 (Solache & Carrillo) as amended on March 23, 2026

Early Edge California— a statewide organization that advocates for policies and investments in Early Learning and Care— is writing in **SUPPORT AB 2379 (Solache & Carrillo)**, which ensures licensed and license-exempt family child care providers are clearly informed of their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement.

Family child care providers are a critical part of California's child care system, especially for working-class and immigrant families. Because many providers care for children in their own homes, their workplace is also their residence. When immigration enforcement actions occur without clear guidance or understanding of constitutional protections, providers may feel pressured to allow entry or comply with actions that violate their rights, creating fear and instability that can disrupt care for children and families.

AB 2379 builds on California's existing sensitive location protections by ensuring providers receive clear, accessible information about their Fourth Amendment rights. The bill requires the Department of Social Services to notify licensed and license-exempt family child care providers of their rights and to coordinate a plain-language, multilingual training program delivered by an experienced statewide child care entity. This training will help providers understand their rights regarding searches, seizures, arrests, and detentions in their homes, ensuring consistent statewide guidance.

By educating providers about their constitutional rights, **AB 2379** helps keep child care doors open, protects access to care for working families, and ensures providers are not subjected to intimidation, misinformation, or unlawful searches by law enforcement, including federal immigration authorities.

For these reasons, Early Edge California is proud to support AB 2379 and respectfully requests your AYE vote when the bill comes before you in committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PATRICIA LOZANO".

Patricia Lozano
Executive Director
Early Edge California



March 9, 2026

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor
State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for \$11.5 million one-time funding for child care infrastructure geared towards communities impacted by recent fires

Dear Governor Newsom,

UNITE-LA is a Los Angeles-based nonprofit working to improve economic and education mobility through collaboration that strengthens systems, policies, and investments. UNITE-LA disseminated a [press release](#) following the release of the January state budget proposal. We write to underscore our support of the budget item of \$11.5M one-time funding for child care infrastructure geared towards communities impacted by recent fires. UNITE-LA has a long-standing history as an intermediary between the early learning ecosystem and business communities. From this work, we can attest to the significance of such funding specified for child care in disaster relief and recovery efforts.

The [2025 Los Angeles County wildfires](#) were devastating for our communities, with the Eaton and Palisades fires combining for the [second-deadliest](#) fires in California's history. The Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles monitored the impact of the fires on the local child care system, estimating that over [100 sites](#) were impacted and, of those, 47 were destroyed. Six months after the disaster, there were [reported](#) delays in federal aid reaching qualifying survivors. Now, over a year later, it was [reported](#) that 80% of survivors remain displaced, and construction has begun on approximately 500 of the over [16,000](#) damaged businesses and homes.

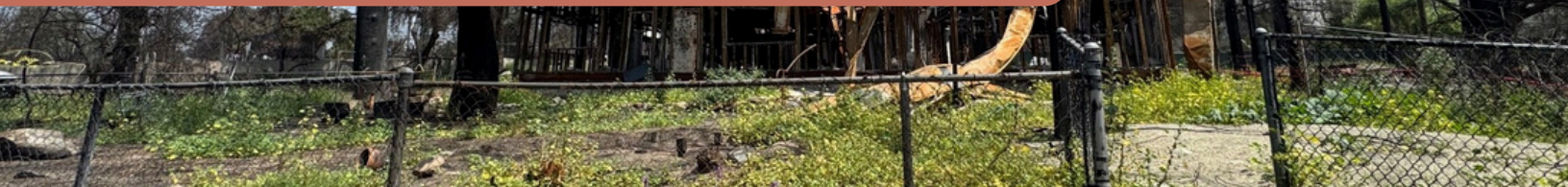
UNITE-LA supports the \$11.5 million one-time funding for child care infrastructure geared towards communities impacted by recent fires included in the January budget. State investments can promote significant positive outcomes for children, families, the child care workforce, and the greater economy. The proposed funding would be a critical relief for child care providers and early learning educators impacted by wildfires, and support in stabilizing the child care system at a time when federal actions have been lacking or harmful. **We therefore strongly urge you to protect this budget ask in the May Revision and final June budget.** Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Bell', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alysia Bell
President, UNITE-LA

Los Angeles Recovery and Investment in Service of Early Care & Education (LA RISE) Fund



When devastating wildfires and severe storms struck Los Angeles County in January 2025, the Low Income Investment Fund and partners acted swiftly to help stabilize the early care and education sector.



HEISING-SIMONS
FOUNDATION



California
COMMUNITY
Foundation

ballmer
GROUP®

Launched in April 2025, the Los Angeles RISE Fund provides recoverable grants of up to \$50,000 and technical assistance to help early care and education providers rebuild, reopen, and continue serving children ages 0–5. The RISE Fund aims to restore and strengthen child care infrastructure in the communities most deeply affected by disaster, ensuring families have safe, high-quality care as they rebuild their lives.

This project was made possible through generous support from the Heising-Simons Foundation, the California Community Foundation, and the Ballmer Group, FireAid, along with LA Rise funding that supports community recovery and resilience efforts. Together, these investments help strengthen local capacity and advance long-term recovery across impacted communities.

Why It Matters and Looking Ahead

Early care and education providers are essential to community recovery. Their ability to reopen allows families to return to work, children to regain stability, and neighborhoods to rebuild. Many family child care providers live where they work, making RISE support both a business and a home recovery effort.



The need for recovery funding continues to far exceed available resources.

Continued investment will:

- Expand access to capital for disaster recovery
- Provide coaching and capital-readiness technical assistance
- Build climate-resilient ECE infrastructure
- Develop a long-term recovery model for child care

Use of Funds

Facility repairs and rebuilding
Safety upgrades and licensing compliance

Need

503 ECE programs located in burn areas

96 applicants

\$4 million requested for
\$14 million in damages

Impact

1,842 child care spaces
lost in Eaton and
Palisades fires

40 programs
completely destroyed

23 centers

17 FCCs

Provider resiliency

How Los Angeles County's child care providers are rebuilding hope after the fires.

"My home was more than just my residence; it was central to my livelihood and a trusted resource for local families."

– Clark Family Child Care, Altadena

"Without family child care homes, working parents have nowhere to turn. The recovery of our neighborhood depends on early care and education."

– Williams Family Child Care, Pasadena



Attachment D:

LA County Pursuits of Position April 2026

DRAFT



Sacramento – Pursuits of County Advocacy Position on State Legislation Related to CalWORKs, Early Care and Education, and Health

This report contains pursuits of County advocacy position on the following State legislation:

California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)

Background

- The CalWORKs program provides eligible low-income families with cash grants and education, employment, and training programs, and supportive services to give families opportunities to build resilience and achieve critical economic mobility.
- Under current law, a family can lose CalWORKs support if a parent works more than 100 hours in four weeks.
- [AB 1755 \(Sharp-Collins\)](#), as introduced on February 9, 2026, would remove the provision, for purposes of determining a child's deprivation of parental support or care, that requires a parent to work less than 100 hours in the preceding four weeks.
- This bill would instead disregard the number of hours that the child's parent or parents work, provided the family does not exceed the applicable gross or net income limits and is otherwise eligible for assistance.

County Impact

- AB 1755 would allow low-income working families and underemployed families to still receive assistance and not penalize recipients and applicants for working full-time.
- According to the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), this bill would remove barriers for low-income families. Additionally, this bill would simplify the eligibility determination process by removing the need to assess hours worked for deprivation.

Support and Opposition

- AB 1755 is co-sponsored by: California Partnership to End Domestic Violence; Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations; Coalition of Welfare Rights Organizations; County Welfare Directors Association of California; End Child Poverty California Powered by GRACE; Parent Voices California; SEIU California; and Western Center on Law and Poverty.

- AB 1755 is supported by: American Academy of Pediatrics, California; California Association of Food Banks; California Family Resource Association; Child Abuse Prevention Center and its Affiliates, Safe Kids California; California and the California Family Resource Association; and Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto.
- There is no opposition on file.

Status

- AB 1755 is pending consideration in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Recommendation

- This Office and DPSS recommend supporting AB 1755 as it would remove barriers and increase access to financial assistance for low-income families.
- Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support proposals that expand access to financial assistance programs serving low-income families, **the Sacramento Advocates will support AB 1755.**

Subsidized Childcare Reimbursement Rates Reporting

Background

- Existing law requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide quarterly updates to the Legislature on implementation of new subsidized childcare reimbursement rates through July 1, 2027.
- [AB 1981 \(Aguilar-Curry\)](#), as amended on March 26, 2026, would delete the July 1, 2027, sunset date for CDSS to provide the Assembly and Senate budget committees and the Legislative's Analyst's Office with quarterly updates on the implementation of the new subsidized childcare reimbursement rates set under the alternative methodology, and instead would require those updates to continue until the new reimbursement rates are fully implemented.
- The bill would also require CDSS to provide the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, rather than the Legislature, with CDSS' anticipated timeline for transitioning to the new rates.

County Impact

- According to the Department of Public Health (DPH), this measure is a positive step forward to closing the gap and addressing long-standing inequities in the child care delivery system, and stopping the cycle of early educators continually receiving low wages.
- DPH notes that publicly provided information about progress toward implementing the new reimbursement rate methodology would help recruit and retain valuable early care and education staff to serve children.

Support and Opposition

- AB 1981 is sponsored by: Child Care Providers United; SEIU California State Council; and the United Domestic Workers/AFSCME Local 3930.
- The bill is supported by: California Chamber of Commerce; Early Edge California; Oakland Starting Smart & Strong; and Parent Voices California.

- There is no opposition on file.

Status

- AB 1981 is pending consideration on the Assembly Floor.

Recommendation

- This Office and DPH recommend supporting AB 1981, to help address child care workforce shortages and the limited supply of programs available to meet child care needs of working families.
- Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support proposals that increase access to high-quality early care and education services, **the Sacramento Advocates will support AB 1981.**

Medi-Cal Lactation Services

Background

- Existing law establishes Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP) services as a Medi-Cal benefit, which includes referral to counseling on breastfeeding, and requires the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to streamline and simplify existing Medi-Cal program procedures to improve access to lactation supports and breast pumps.
- [AB 2160 \(Rodriguez\)](#), as amended on April 9, 2026, would require the DHCS to issue updated guidance on Medi-Cal coverage for lactation services by July 1, 2027.
- Specifically, the bill would:
 - Require that the guidance clarifies Medi-Cal coverage policies for a continuum of lactation services, including health education related to lactation, basic lactation support, and lactation consultation;
 - Require that DHCS seek stakeholder input on draft guidance prior to issuing the guidance;
 - Make it easier for families to receive lactation support without unnecessary hurdles like prior authorization or referrals; and
 - Ensure that International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants are eligible to become Medi-Cal providers and to be reimbursed for the vital services they deliver.

County Impact

- Stronger Medi-Cal coverage of lactation support can reduce health disparities by improving birth and long-term outcomes among at-risk populations and can increase access to care in underserved communities.
- DPH notes that this bill could lead to potential long-term health care cost savings as a result of fewer preterm births, neonatal intensive care unit stays, and surgical interventions including cesareans, and increased breastfeeding which reduces risk of childhood obesity. The bill could lead to additional opportunities for cost reimbursement for Medi-Cal patients receiving lactation support in County facilities or through contracted programming.
- The Department of Health Services (DHS) reports that this bill would improve access to timely lactation services by clarifying Medi-Cal coverage and billing,

reducing barriers to care, and expanding access to qualified providers. By helping patients receive needed lactation support earlier and more consistently, AB 2160 would promote healthier infant feeding outcomes, support maternal well-being, and help prevent avoidable complications that can lead to more serious health concerns for both parent and child.

Support and Opposition

- AB 2160 is sponsored by: California WIC Association and California Breastfeeding Coalition.
- The bill is supported by over 30 organizations, including Alliance for Children's Rights; American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists - District IX; BreastfeedLA; California Conference of Local Health Department Nutritionists; Children Now; Maternal and Child Health Access; Mothers' Milk Bank; Public Health Alliance of Southern California; University of California Health Milk Bank; and others.
- There is no opposition on file.

Status

- AB 2160 is pending consideration in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Recommendation

- This Office, DPH, and DHS recommend supporting AB 2160 because it would help improve lactation services for underserved communities in the County.
- Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support proposals that protect the public's health and/or that preserve or increase funding for public health activities including maternal and child health, **the Sacramento Advocates will support AB 2160.**

Family Daycare Homes

Background

- [AB 2379 \(Solache\)](#), as amended on March 23, 2026, would require CDSS to notify and provide multilingual training, through an experienced statewide entity, to licensed and licensed-exempt family daycare home providers on their constitutional Fourth Amendment rights related to searches, seizures, and immigration enforcement interactions, without imposing penalties for noncompliance.
- Specifically, the bill would require:
 - CDSS to notify all licensed and license-exempt family child care providers of their Fourth Amendment rights ;
 - Development of a plain-language, multilingual training program for child care providers on their rights and responsibilities; and
 - Child care providers to complete this training within specified timeframes to ensure consistent statewide understanding of their rights.
- AB 2379 would take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

County Impact

- DPH notes that AB 2379 would build on California's law that recognizes child care sites as sensitive locations.
- DPH further notes that by protecting immigrant child care providers and the families they serve, the bill would help child care facilities remain open and safe from intimidation, misinformation, and unlawful searches or arrests by law enforcement, including federal immigration authorities.

Support and Opposition

- AB 2379 is sponsored by: Child Care Providers United; SEIU California State Council; and the United Domestic Workers/AFSCME Local 3930.
- The bill is supported by: Alameda County Office of Education; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO; Early Edge California; Kidango; Parent Voices California; PEACH; and UnidosUS.
- There is no opposition on file.

Status

- AB 2379 is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Judiciary Committee on April 21, 2026.

Recommendation

- This Office and DPH recommend supporting AB 2379 to help provide family child care providers with information about their constitutional rights in order to protect themselves, the children in their care, and the families they serve.
- Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support proposals that increase access to high-quality early care and education services, **the Sacramento Advocates will support AB 2379.**

CalWORKs: Immediate Assistance

Background

- Under current law, counties are required, at the time of application, to determine whether a CalWORKs applicant needs, and is eligible for, immediate assistance because the applicant does not have sufficient resources to meet their emergency needs.
- Eligibility requirements for immediate needs applicants include that an applicant must apply for any unconditionally available income.
- [AB 2567 \(C. Rodriguez\)](#), as amended on March 26, 2026, would require that counties authorize immediate assistance to eligible applicants without requiring the applicant to apply for unconditionally available income as a prerequisite for eligibility determination.

County Impact

- AB 2567 would streamline access to emergency CalWORKs assistance, allowing low-income families who are facing urgent crises to meet their basic needs without delay.

- According to DPSS, this bill would remove the barrier that delays immediate access to financial support for low-income families.
- Furthermore, DPSS reports that this bill would reinforce expedited eligibility and potentially issue emergency payments sooner for low-income families, including those experiencing homelessness.

Support and Opposition

- AB 2567 is co-sponsored by: California Partnership to End Domestic Violence; Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations; Coalition of Welfare Rights Organizations; County Welfare Directors Association of California; End Child Poverty California Powered by GRACE; Parent Voices California; SEIU California; and Western Center on Law and Poverty.
- There is no opposition on file.

Status

- AB 2567 is pending consideration in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Recommendation

- This Office and DPSS recommend supporting AB 2567 as it would remove barriers and increase access to immediate financial assistance for low-income families.
- Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support proposals that expand access to financial assistance programs serving low-income families, **the Sacramento Advocates will support AB 2567.**

Fuel-Burning Portable Devices

Background

- Existing law regulates certain consumer fire-related products, including cigarette lighters, that must meet child-safety standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal.
- [SB 870 \(Cortese\)](#), as amended on March 10, 2026, would add a new fire-safety provision to prohibit the sale, offer for sale, or distribution in California of a fuel-burning portable device that does not comply with ASTM F3363-25, the applicable safety standard for unvented liquid/gel fuel-burning portable devices, on and after January 1, 2027.

County Impact

- According to DHS, SB 870 would help prevent catastrophic burn injuries and reduce avoidable emergency department visits, hospitalizations, trauma care, and follow-up treatment associated with these products.
- DHS notes that could have an indirect positive fiscal impact on its operations, by helping avoid catastrophic burn injuries and unnecessary hospitalizations and inpatient care costs associated with severe burn treatment in the County.

Support and Opposition

- SB 870 is supported by: California Product Stewardship Council; Consumer Attorneys of California; Consumer Reports; Consumer Watchdog; Firefighters Burn Institute; Household and Commercial Products Association; and Orange County Fire Authority.
- There is no opposition on file.

Status

- SB 870 is pending consideration in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Recommendation

- This Office and DHS recommend supporting SB 870 as it would prevent and reduce burn injuries across the County.
- Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support proposals that protect the public's health, including injury prevention, **the Sacramento Advocates will support SB 870.**



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

500 West Temple Street, Room 723
Los Angeles, California 90012

legislativeaffairs@ceo.lacounty.gov

<https://ceo.lacounty.gov/legislative-affairs-and-intergovernmental-relations/>