

Federal & State ECE Policy Updates Bay Area Early Childhood Funders

May 12, 2022

Child Care Law Center

Child Care Policy Updates

2

- Federal Reconciliation
- State Budget
- State Bills



30

Federal Reconciliation Budget Bill

3

- The House of Representatives passed a budget bill in November 2021.
- Senate can pass a reconciliation budget that includes child care.
- Many allies in Washington have been working hard behind the scenes to include child care funding.
- Possibly by Memorial Day



Senate HELP Committee Proposal for Federal Reconciliation Bill

4

\$150 - \$200 billion (about half of original bill)

- Child Care and Development Block Grant (\$72 Billion)
 - Increase child care supply & access
 - Increase pay to child care providers
 - Improve child care facilities
- Pilot program for states to expand CCDBG to serve families w/incomes above the current income limit & cap families' child care expenses at 7% of income.



Senate HELP Committee Proposal for Federal Reconciliation Bill (cont)

5

- Grants to states to create & expand “high-quality” preschool programs for kids ages 3 & 4 (\$18 billion)
- Increase Head Start teachers & staff wages (\$12 billion)



State Budget

ECE Coalition Budget Priorities

6

- Increase Child Care Provider Wages
- Head Start Programs Supports
- Retirement & Health Benefits for Child Care Providers United (CCPU) members
- Waive Family Fees through Sep. 30, 2024 (AB 92)
- Child Care Infrastructure Grants
- Co-Location of Child Care Facilities w/Affordable Housing
- Workforce Development Grants



CA Senate

Democratic Budget Priorities

7

- Waive family fees & continue paying child care providers based on families' certified hours of care (\$245 M)
- Increase provider subsidy wages & support workforce benefits (\$1B)
- Expand child care facilities, infrastructure investments & professional development (\$445 M)
- Increase income eligibility, subsidy adjustment rate factors & long-term investments in state preschool.



CA Legislative Women's Caucus Budget Priorities

8

Top budget priority: \$1.9 billion for child care

- Increase child care provider wages & compensation
- Fund health care and retirement plans for Child Care Providers United
- Pay child care providers based on families' certified need (aka "hold harmless")
- Fund state preschool
- Waive family fees
- Invest in child care workforce development grants and infrastructure



Governor's May Revision

9

Must be submitted by May 15, 2022



Affordable Child Care Family Fees Act

AB 92 (Gómez Reyes)

10

Pass AB 92 through the state budget (\$187 M)

- Extend family fees waiver until Sep. 30, 2024 (permissible w/ARPA CCDBG Discretionary Supplemental funds)
- Implement an equitable family fee schedule after Sep. 30, 2024
- Ensure child care providers do not absorb the family fees waiver cost



Equitable Access to Child Care for Working Families

[AB 1649](#) (Quirk-Silva)

11

Pay Child Care Providers Based on Family's Enrollment rather than Attendance



Hope for Children Act

SB 854 (Skinner)

12

- State workgroup to discuss how to make trust fund for children who lost a parent to COVID-19 & eligible children in foster care
- If funded, state program to provide cash to children who lost a parent to COVID-19



Universal Preschool

SB 976 (Leyva)

13

- Increase California State Preschool Program (CSPP) availability by expanding eligibility to all three- and four-year-olds regardless of income
- Expands CSPP providers to family child care homes and Head Start centers
- Waives family fees for participation in program



Child Tax Credit

AB 2589 (Santiago)

14

- California Child Tax Credit Payment: New, one-time **\$2,000 tax credit payment per child** to families earning under \$30,000/year.
- Raises the minimum amount for the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) from **\$1 to \$255** to help ensure that workers and families with low incomes do not fall deeper into poverty.



Family-Friendly CalWORKs

AB 2300 (Kalra)

15

Adds bonding & paid family leave provisions to CalWORKs participation rules.

Parents may receive a CalWORKs grant while not working if:

- They must leave a job because the schedule is unpredictable or because their rights are violated (continue to get CalWORKs benefits for 3 months)
- They adopt, foster or give birth (parents will have 12 weeks to bond with their child)



CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work Exemption

AB 1728 (Rivas)

16

Automatically exempts the primary caregiver parent of a child three-years-old or younger from participation in welfare-to-work activities.



School Meals

AB 558 (Nazarian)

17

- Requires CDE to issue guidance for how schools could voluntarily serve younger siblings a federally reimbursable meal at a school site that their older sibling attends.
- New reimbursement for schools using plant-based food options
 - \$0.20 per meal with plant-based option or
 - \$0.10 per meal that includes plant-based milk option

