



Legislative Update April 13, 2007

Network Supports:

ACR34 (Nakanishi) Resolution on Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week

Designates April 15 – April 21, 2007 as “Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week” **Status: passed Assembly Floor- forwarded to Senate Rules**

AB21 (Jones)- State Earned Income Tax Credit

Beginning on or after January 1, 2008, allows for a state tax credit of 15% of the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (subtracting out the alternative minimum tax). **Status: Assembly Revenue & Taxation 4/30**

AB537 (Swanson) – Family Medical Leave

Increases the circumstances under which an employee is entitled to leave under the Family Rights Act by eliminating the age and dependency elements from the “child” definition, by expanding the “parent” definition and permitting leave time to care for a seriously ill grandparent, sibling, grandchild or domestic partner. **Sponsor Labor Project for Working Families-Status: Assembly Labor & Employment 4/18**

AB975 (Solorio) -License-Exempt Training/Resource & Referral – 2/3 Vote required

Provides \$2.9 million for continued training of license-exempt child care providers through resource & referral programs. **Sponsored by the Network- Status: Assembly Appropriations**

AB1028 (Caballero)- CCDA

Relates to the reimbursement and auditing of child care and development providers specifically contracted center-based programs. Prohibits the Department of Education from applying charitable donations in calculations of the state funding available to child care contractors. Addresses issues of required annual single independent financial and compliance audits for child development programs. **Status: Assembly Human Services- 4/24**

AB1080 (Mullin)- Preschool Clean-up

Clarifies that funding for Program Literacy Coordinator is per class not per classroom and can be in either an LEA-based or participating program and clarifies that a funded program in a API decile 1 –3 school district can remain in that school district even if the school district improves their decile standing. An new funding provided for expansion would be awarded based on the most recent API scores. Clarifies the legislative intent to offer full-day services. **Amended to state that new grants can only be awarded from unallocated funds in the original grant or from expansion funds. Sponsored by CCDA Status: Assembly Education 4/18**

AB1279 (Coto)- Reserve fund for Child Development Contractors

Increases the allowable reserve fund for child development contractors (specifically AP & contracted centers) from the current 2% of the administration/support budget (with a \$1,000 cap) to an unspecified percentage (anticipated at 3-5%) of the entire contract amount. **Sponsored by the California Alternative Payment Program Association – Status: Assembly Education 4/25**

AB1571 (DeSaulnier)- Alternative Payment Reimbursement- Contingency Fund

Authorizes APP's to apply for funding of 5% of their contract amount (or greater if funds are available) to cover reimbursable expenditures beyond their maximum reimbursable contract amount (MRA). Requires specified time frames for application and distribution of these funds and deletes the prohibition of applying for contingency funds for consecutive years. Intended to encourage the full expenditure of available APP funds. **Sponsored by the California Alternative Payment Program Association- Status: Assembly Education 4/25**

SB20 (Torlakson) – Increased Food Program Reimbursement-Urgency Clause

Increases the Food Program reimbursement rate for schools and child development programs up to \$.30. On a phased-in basis requires that the meals have increase nutritional requirements excluding the use of fried foods and trans-fats. Following the phase-in period, the reimbursement rate would be decreased to \$.16 for programs not meeting the new requirements. **Status: Senate Health 3/28- Senate Education 4/25**

SB197 (Ducheny)- Foster care: child care subsidy eligibility

Requires continued child care subsidy receipt for foster children whose foster placement changes if child care need exists with the new foster placement. The requirement only exists, however, if the child remains with the same child care provider or moves to a new child care provider in the same service area as the administering Alternative Payment Program. **(Support as amended) Status: Senate Appropriations 4/23**

SB468 (Padilla)- Shaken Baby Syndrome

Clarifies the legislative findings regarding the effectiveness of shaken baby syndrome instructional materials and eliminates the requirement that the DSS provide instructional materials free of charge to newly licensed child care providers and at the time of site visits. Informational material will continue to be provided. Established by July 1, 2009 education pilots in up to 10 counties and to prepare and submit by July 1, 2012 to the Legislature an evaluation report on program effectiveness. **Status: Senate Appropriations 4/23**

SB680 (Ridley-Thomas) – Inclusive Child Care Services

Facilitates the placement of children with disabilities and other special needs in child care settings through assistance from child care resource & referral programs and selected Local Planning Councils (Orange, Yuba, Sutter). Services include enhanced child care referrals, provider training, provider and parent outreach, technical assistance and support services.

Co-sponsored by the Network and Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles- Status: Senate Human Services 4/24

SB727 (Kuehl) – Unemployment and Disability

Expands those family members eligible for paid family leave to include siblings, grandparents, grandchildren and in-laws. **Sponsor Labor Project for Working Families –Status: Senate Labor & Industrial Relations 4/25**

Network Monitor: (discussed but no specific position)

AB170 (Saldana)- State Preschool Programs: Military Family housing exclusion

For the purposes of determining eligibility for state preschool programs only, this bill would exclude income for basic housing allowances received by those serving active duty in the military. **Status: Assembly Appropriations**

AB304 (Huff)- Community Care Facilities: Disaster Plans

Requires that a community care licensing facility provide a copy of their disaster and casualty plan to the local fire department, law enforcement agency, civil defense and other disaster authorities upon request. **Status: Assembly Appropriations-recommended consent calendar**

AB313 (Benoit)- Child Care Rating System

Requires the Department of Social Services to establish a child care facility rating system , for the department to put it on their website and for each facility to post the rating at their facility. **Amended to require the department to assign ratings based on the presence and severity of licensing compliance issues for facilities with recorded inspections on or since January 1, 2005. Status: Assembly Human Services 4/24**

AB571 (Jones)- Preschool Expansion and Teacher Competencies

Requires access to state preschool programs for all low-income 3 & 4 year-old children by FY2011-2012 (with anticipated surplus Proposition 98 funds per the LAO's Proposition 98 Roadmap recommendations) and to create professional development programs for prekindergarten teachers and the development of teaching competencies. **Sponsored by Preschool California, Children NOW (lead) & Fight Crime Invest in Kids. Status: Introduced – Assembly Education 4/25**

AB683 (Runner)- Kindergarten Entry Age

Moves back the age of kindergarten entry to five years old phased in over three years from the current date of December 2 up to September 1 by 2011-2012. Amended to require compensation to school districts for any loss of ADA for this change. **Status: Assembly Education 4/25**

AB978 (Benoit) – Community Care Facilities- Urgency clause

Requires that 30% of community care licensed facilities be inspected annually through random/unannounced visits. Requires civil penalties for certain specified Type A violations that would be placed in a fund for technical assistance and outlines specific required action and timelines following substantiated complaints, TSO's, exclusions and revocations. **Status: Assembly Human Services 4/24**

AB1052 (Torrico)- Limited English Proficient Training

Requires the establishment of a three-year pilot program in three counties (Northern, Central & Southern California) to provide training and a career-ladder for preschool teachers of limited English proficient children. . Provides grants of \$450,000 per year to each pilot program. **Status: Assembly Higher Education 4/17**

AB1059 (DeLeon)-Preschool Staff Retention

Expands the funding for retention of child care workers in state-subsidized child care centers. With priority staff in preschool programs located in school districts with API scores in deciles 1 – 3. Establishes the Preschool loan Assumption Program to allow for loan assumption of up to

\$11,000 after an individual works in a public preschool program in a low-performing elementary school for 4 years. Expands eligibility for the Child Development Teacher and Supervisor Grant program to workers at CDE-contracted centers and public sector providers in API 1-3 decile school districts. Expands the availability to the Grant program beyond the current two-year academic restriction. **Sponsored by Preschool California (lead), Children NOW & Fight Crime Invest in Kids. Status: Assembly Higher Education 4/17**

AB1164 (DeLeon)- AFSCME & SEIU-

Allows for the collective bargaining rights for family child care and license-exempt child care providers and authorizes providers to choose a representative organization to negotiate with state regulatory and funding agencies as well as programs administering child care subsidy programs. Negotiations are limited to issues within the entity's jurisdiction. **Status: Assembly Labor & Employment 4/18**

AB1236 (Mullin)- Kindergarten Entrance Age: School Readiness

Delays the kindergarten entry age to 5 years-old by September 1 effective July 2008 and makes kindergarten attendance compulsory. Establishes a voluntary school readiness program for the year prior to kindergarten entry. Requires that the readiness program be taught by an individual credentialed to teach kindergarten (allows other options with a professional development plan to a credential) and an associate teacher with specified degree. Class size limit of 20 students. Planned funding from ADA (portion), Intent language to use state preschool dollars, and delayed kindergarten entry funds. **Sponsored by CTA. Status: Assembly Education 4/25**

SB635 (Margett)- Fraud in Stages 2 & 3 child care

Declares the intent to enact legislation to establish best practices for the prevention, detection, identification and investigation of fraud committed by recipients in CalWORKs child care Stages 2 and 3. **Status: Introduced (may be addressed through the budget)**

SB944 (Padilla)-State Preschool Program Data

Requires the Child Development Division to compile, aggregate and analyze data on all age children in subsidized child development programs subject to available funding and to report the findings to the Legislature in January 2010. Requires specific additional data on preschool children (3-5 years old). **Sponsored by Preschool California , Children NOW & Fight Crime Invest in Kids (lead). Status: Senate Education 4/18**

No Network Position (Bill not reviewed to date):

Trustline Bills:

AB344 (Huff)- Language School Directors- Trustline Requirement

Requires language school directors to register with Trustline. **Status: Assembly Human Services**

SB693 (Ashburn)-Child Care Subsidy Payments- Trustline

Requires that in TARP/LiveScan operational counties payment for child care subsidy shall not begin until DSS confirms that the provider is a registered Trustline provider or is exempted from Trustline registration. Currently, this bill applies to general AP programs and CalWorks Stage 1. It is our current understanding that it is the author's intent to amend the bill to apply only to CDE funded programs. **Status: Senate Human Services**

SB694 (Ashburn)-Child Care Subsidy Payments

Currently this is a spot bill. It is our current understanding that this bill will incorporate similar language to SB693 only it will apply to Stage 1 child care through the Department of Social Services. **Status: Senate Rules**

Working Family Bill:

SB836 (Kuehl) – Fair Employment: Familial Status

Add familial status to the list of prohibited bases for employment discrimination in the Fair Employment and Housing Act. The law will protect against discriminatory employment decisions driven by the assumption that workers with family responsibilities are less committed to their jobs or less reliable. **Sponsor Labor Project for Working Families- Status: Senate Judiciary**

Children & Families Commission Bills:

SB688 (Cox)- First 5 Communications

Prohibits the First 5 California commission from spending funds to advocate or promote any program or activity not expressly authorized by the Legislature or an initiative. **Status: Senate Human Services (It appears as if this bill will become inactive or be dropped)**

SB893 (Cox)-First 5 Funding

Eliminates the categories of funding for California First 5 Commission and redirects the funds to health care services for children. **Status: Senate Health 4/25 (It appears that this bill will be amended to a ballot initiative)**

Other Bills

AB905 (Arambula)- Child Care Subsidy Eligibility: Seek Work

Allows the SPI to extend eligibility for subsidized child care by an additional 60 days in defined geographic areas where high unemployment or high numbers of seasonal agricultural jobs exist. **Status: Assembly Human Services 4/24**

AB1344 (Mendoza)- State Preschool Programs

Requires that any unspent state preschool program funds be redirected into the preschool and family literacy program until all eligible children are served. Appropriates \$50 million in 2008-09 and \$45 million in 2009-10. Priority for these funds is in the decile 1 – 3 API schools. **Status: Assembly Education 4/18**

AB1558 (Soto)- Community Care Facilities Information

Requires the DSS to establish an electronic automated license information system by July 1, 2008 and include facility profiles with data on services provided, history of inspections, complaints, department actions and fines for the last three years. The information must be updated at least quarterly. **(It is our understanding that child care facilities will be removed from this bill) Status: Assembly Human Services**

AB1685 (Garrick)- Before and Afters School Programs- Urgency Clause

Increases reimbursement rates as a priority for existing before school programs. **Sponsor: Governor Schwarzenegger Status: Assembly Education 4/18**