



March 4, 2015

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

The California Legislative Women's Caucus has consistently prioritized childcare policy that addresses the needs of California's most vulnerable families. In order to continue our commitment to ensuring children have access to quality child care and early learning opportunities and economic stability for families, leadership of the Legislative Women's Caucus is requesting an investment of no less than 600 million dollars be dedicated to the child care system. This investment should be evenly distributed between modernizing rates and increasing slots.

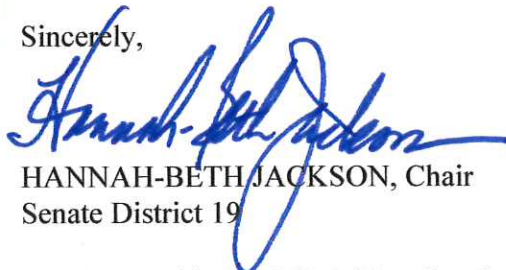
California lost one-third of its child care and development system (over \$1 billion) during the great recession. Our state has a responsibility to begin to fill in the cracks we created over the past several years.

The Legislative Women's Caucus is proud of the efforts we made last year, resulting in additional investment in State Preschool, but it has proved inadequate as California is still meeting less than 18% of the childcare needs for eligible children 0-5.

With one in four of California's children living in poverty and low-income working families struggling to achieve economic security, it is imperative we make additional revenues available to invest in the child care delivery system.

We look forward to continuing the conversation of child care investment as the budget process progresses. We would love the opportunity to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,



HANNAH-BETH JACKSON, Chair
Senate District 19



CRISTINA GARCIA, Vice-Chair
Assembly District 58

CC: Honorable Toni G. Atkins, Speaker of the Assembly
Honorable Kevin de León, President pro Tem of the Senate
Honorable Shirley Weber, Chair – Assembly Budget Committee
Honorable Mark Leno, Chair – Senate Budget Committee
Members, Assembly Budget Committee
Members, Senate Budget Committee