**[INSERT LETTERHEAD]**

**Submit by email to*:*** **Taryn.Smith@sen.ca.gov****,** **Jaspreet.johl@asm.ca.gov****,**

**Copy email to:** **mary@parentvoices.org****;** **lfurstenfeld@childcarelaw.org** **,**

**Date – Letters due by June 6, 2018 at NOON**

Chairman Wiener

1020 N Street, Room 521
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Assembly Bill 60 (Santiago) - SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Wiener:

 [Name of Your Organization] supports Assembly Bill 60, because it creates the stable conditions children need for healthy development and for parents to work. This bill guarantees that families receiving CalWORKs child care are not wrongfully discontinued from child care by streamlining the process between the various child care stages.

 Continuity of care creates the stable conditions for children to thrive. Families are thrown into crisis when they lose their child care; without child care, parents cannot work, make rent, pay bills, or buy basic necessities. This level of stress is toxic on children and has lasting negative effects. Parents have asked for AB 60’s technological solution to ensure their child care is not interrupted during the CalWORKs child care transfer process.

 AB 60, introduced last year but enacted through the Budget Act of 2017,[[1]](#footnote-1) guaranteed at least 12 months of continuous affordable child care for eligible families. It has provided stability for families and eliminated burdensome paperwork requirements that caused eligible families to lose their care. But families are still falling through the cracks as they transition through the CalWORKs child care stages. These working families who should continue to receive CalWORKs child care are instead facing unnecessary disruptions in the care they need to keep working and keep their children safe. Families are forced to forego work, limit their work hours, or struggle to pay for child care they cannot afford. The updated AB 60 builds on the effort to ensure that families experience no break in services. AB 60 helps child care contractors fulfill their duty to seamlessly transfer families through the CalWORKs child care stages by requiring counties to share the necessary data via a limited “read-only” access to the county level Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS) database.

**Optional: Include 2 sentences about why your organization cares.**

Parents should be able to support their families and improve their prospects in the job market without having to sacrifice their child’s well-being. AB 60 is an extraordinary opportunity to remove unjust barriers that cause eligible families to lose their child care. For these reasons, [**Name of Your Organization**] respectfully asks for your “Aye” vote.

Sincerely,

**Your Name and Title**

1. Cal. Educ. Code § 8263 (h). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)