



Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell
Chair, Assembly Education Committee
California State Capitol

RE: Coalition of Support for AB 865 (Quirk-Silva) – Valuing California's Child Care Providers

Dear Assemblymember O'Donnell,

We the undersigned would like to communicate our support AB 865 to provide stable reimbursements based on the enrollment and not attendance of a family to all child care providers who accept vouchers. This legislation will also bring parity and value to subsidized providers on par with private pay providers.

California is currently in the midst of a child care crisis and has seen capacity for care reduced by nearly one-third in the past year. The economic and public health crisis induced by COVID-19 has accelerated closures of child care providers who were barely surviving even before the pandemic. According to the California Department of Social Services, a staggering 2,930 Family Child Care Homes and Centers in state permanently closed their doors in 2020. Thousands of working moms and dads lost access to child care.

Prior to the crisis, California's family child care providers who provided subsidized parents on a varied work schedule with child care were reimbursed based on the attendance of a family. This policy in and of itself created a disincentive for providers to accept enrollment of a subsidized child. During COVID, Governor Newsom issued an executive order to stabilize providers and require reimbursement for the space held for a subsidized family regardless of attendance. This action was instrumental in reducing the exodus of providers and halting further closures.

Additionally, during COVID it became apparent that antiquated requirements for parents to manually sign forms or provide hard copies of letters needed change. Similarly, providers had to submit hard copies of attendance sheets and this created challenging punitive roadblocks and jeopardized reimbursements and eligibility. In the age of technology and smart phones, parents and providers should be enabled through technology to more seamlessly support reporting and programmatic requirements.

California's working families must have access to stable child care if our economy is ever to rebound. AB 865 supports the child care work force and reimburses them for holding a space for a child regardless of whether the child attends. AB 865 values child care providers as business owners and recognizes their work as an integral part of California's economy.

Signed,

Bananas	Early Care Educators of San Francisco
California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPPA)	Family Child Care Association of San Francisco
California Child Care Resource & Referral Network	Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
Catalyst Community	Good Samaritan Family Resource Center
Catalyst Family, Inc.	Kai Ming, Head Start
Child Action, Inc.	Low Income Investment Fund
Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles	Marin Child Care Council
Child Care Resource Center	Mission: Readiness
Child Development Associates	North Coast Opportunities
Child Development Resources of Ventura County, Inc	Northern Directors Group
	Only Love Children's Center
Children Now	Options for Learning
Children's Council of San Francisco	Parent Voices San Francisco
Children's Council San Francisco	ReadyNation
Children's Home Society of California	San Francisco Child Care Planning & Advisory Council
Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo	San Francisco Early Care & Education Advocacy Coalition
Community Child Care Council (4Cs) of Alameda County	
Children's Resource & Referral of Santa Barbara County	Santa Barbara County Education Office
Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs)	Sierra Nevada Children's Services
Community Resources for Children	Siskiyou Child Care Council
Connections for Children	Solano Family & Children's Services
Council for a Strong America	Supportive Services, Inc.
Crystal Stairs, Inc.	True Sunshine Preschool Center
Del Norte Child Care Council	Valley Oak Children's Services
Early Care and Education Consortium	Wu Yee Children's Services