



**For Immediate Release**

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**ELEVEN MORE LEGISLATORS SIGN ON AS COAUTHORS TO AB 1649**  
***Legislation Will Preserve Childcare For California's Poorest Workers***

Eleven new Legislators, representing bipartisan support, have signed on to be coauthors of Assembly Bill 1649 by Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva (D – Fullerton) as the effort to preserve access to subsidized childcare for California's poorest working families gains greater momentum.

The new co-authors include:

- Assemblymember Eloise Gomez Reyes (D- Colton) - Assembly Majority Leader
- Assemblymember Devon Mathis (R – Porterville) – Assembly Republican Whip
- Assemblymember Lisa Calderon (D-Whittier) - Chair, Assembly Human Services Committee
- Senator Melissa Hurtado (D – Sanger) - Chair, Senate Human Services Committee
- Assemblymember Phillip Chen (R - Brea)
- Senator Bill Dodd (D – Napa)
- Assemblymember Mike Fong (D-Arcadia)
- Assemblymember Christina Garcia (D-Bell Gardens)
- Senator Josh Newman (D - Fullerton)
- Assemblymember Luz Rivas (D – San Fernando Valley)
- Senator Tom Umberg (D – Orange County)

“This legislation will help prevent the disenrollment of tens of thousands of California families who rely on subsidized childcare,” said Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva, author of AB 1649. “If we’re going to preserve stability in the lives of children in poverty, and guarantee those who provide the childcare will be paid for their services, we need the Legislature to pass AB 1649, and the Governor to sign this vital legislation.”

AB 1649 provides low income families with a set and stable childcare voucher for subsidized childcare, enabling them to stay in the workforce. At the same time, for childcare facilities that provide subsidized care, these vouchers provide a guaranteed reimbursement based on the family’s need, and not just on the hours care was provided. In so doing, AB 1649 continues a policy already in place, but scheduled to sunset on June 30.

During the pandemic, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order [N-45-20](#), noting that subsidized family childcare providers and centers must be paid for the cost of reserving a childcare slot for a family regardless of attendance of the child. Just as in the private pay market, parents must pay for childcare even if their child gets sick or cannot show up for any reason.

The Governor’s Executive Order is set to expire on June 30 without Legislative intervention. If the policy is allowed to lapse, subsidized family childcare providers and childcare centers will have to absorb the shortfall for any days a child is absent. As small businesses with ongoing costs for rent, staff and operating expenses, these centers cannot take on the financial risk of reserving a childcare slot that will

only be reimbursed if the child attends. Tens of thousands of children currently in stable, quality childcare settings face being cast into chaos via mass disenrollment.

According to CAPP, California's poorest and lowest-income working families have the most to lose. These are mainly single moms and moms of color who are already facing financial burdens in accessing care for their children while they are at work.

"Access to high quality stable childcare should not be denied to a family because they are poor, nor should California's poorest families be forced to compete for the few childcare slots available," Denyne Micheletti Coburn, CEO of the California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPP), the sponsor of the AB 1649. "Likewise, without childcare, parents cannot work and the economy will suffer; which why I'm so glad to see the groundswell of support for this bill. There is a crisis looming, but we can prevent it."

More information on AB 1649 is available on [CAPP's website](#). The next hearing on this bill has not been set.

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**About CAPP:** The California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPP) is a 40-plus year network of community-based public and private nonprofit agencies that support working families and children. Established in 1977, CAPP is the lead voice for public and private nonprofit agencies who contract with California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide childcare subsidies to families and to ensure children keep learning while parents are earning. CAPP's funding comes from member agencies, affiliate members and donations.