

LETTERHEAD
DATE

The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
Member, California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5144
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AB 2292 (Aguiar-Curry) [SUBJECT] – Support

Dear Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry:

ORGANIZATION NAME writes in support of your bill, AB 2292, “Improving Infant and Toddler Care.” This bill will invest in California's child care system, by increasing state rates for infant and toddler care, creating a grant program to fund implementation and startup costs of new child care facilities, and establishing a fund to recruit a new generation of family child care providers.

OPTIONAL:

[INSERT ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ABOUT ORGANIATION HERE]

California currently has two subsidized child care programs to help non-CalWORKS, working-poor families with babies find affordable child care. Subsidized child care providers are paid through either 1) direct contracts with the California Department of Education (CDE) or 2) vouchers through the Alternative Payment Program.

Direct Contractors receive funding from the state at a Standard Reimbursement Rate, which is exceptionally low and inadequate to fully fund high quality child care and development programs. Therefore, there are “adjustment factors” to increase the standard maximum payment rate for infants and toddlers. The current adjustment factors are not enough to cover the significantly higher costs of infant and toddler centers. There is also a need for new and updated state preschool program classrooms and centers.

AB 2292 will improve access to quality infant and toddler care in California by increasing the adjustment factors for the Standard Reimbursement Rate. This bill will also create the “Classroom Planning and Implementation Grant Program” to fund start-up costs for opening new classrooms and centers. AB 2292 will also codify and expand the “Family Child Care Recruitment and Training Fund,” dedicating \$6 million dollars over 5 years for startup costs to recruit a new generation of family child care providers.

Should you have any questions about our SUPPORT position, please contact **NAME** at **EMAIL/PHONE**.

Sincerely,

NAME
TITLE