Insert Letterhead

May XX, 2021

Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez

Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee

California State Capitol

**RE: Support for AB 92**

Dear Assemblymember Gonzalez,

The *Association/Organization name* is proud to support AB 92. This bill alleviates the burdens that families face in paying for child care by creating an equitable sliding scale for family fees.

California is one of the most expensive states for parents who need child care services.

There is broad consensus among child care experts and economists that spending more than 7% of annual income on child care places economic stress on working families.

While there are a number of State and Federally-funded programs that help families pay for child care, families who need care must still pay family fees which can make subsidized care unaffordable. With limited disposable income, working families struggle to pay high fees and are forced to make difficult decisions about basic needs.

These families are at significant risk of losing their subsidized child care which can, in turn, jeopardize their employment or education. This places them at greater risk of reliance on the state's other welfare programs and prevents families from rising out of poverty. As families earn raises and their income rises, so do their family fees, which then erases any economic gains they have made. The current fee structure penalizes families for their hard work.

The COVID-19 pandemic has only heightened the need for affordable child care for families and communities of color. This is especially true for the Latinx community, which comprises a significant part of California’s essential workforce and has borne the brunt of the COVID-19 pandemic. In light of the public health crisis and economic recession, parents need affordable child care now more than ever in order to continue providing for their families.

AB 92 will create an equitable sliding scale for family fees that will alleviate the burden on working families struggling to pay for child care and early childhood education services. By increasing the affordability of child care to working families, this bill will benefit the economic recovery of the state by helping parents, especially women of color, remain in the workforce and achieve economic stability.

For these reasons, *Association/Organization*  is pleased to support AB 92. If you have any questions regarding our support please contact us at *Contact Information.*

Sincerely,

*Name*

*Title*

cc: Assemblymember Reyes