



Senator Melissa Hurtado

REPRESENTING SENATE DISTRICT 14

Senate Bill 393 CA Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment Program

As introduced February 11, 2021

SUMMARY

SB 393 modifies the Migrant Childcare Program's funding stream to align it with other voucher-based programs.

PROBLEM

California's Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment Program supports the unique needs of migrant workers whose employ requires they move where their work takes them.

When the program was initially established, it was done so under the funding stream for childcare centers based on a set number of slots for children in a classroom. However, to facilitate the fluctuating number of migrant workers to secure childcare where they work, the system issues vouchers that workers can use to pay for childcare where they end up living. Voucher based childcare programs are set up under an entirely different funding stream with no set numbers to accommodate need.

Due to the variance in how migrant childcare is funded and how it provides access to childcare, during the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Migrant program did not qualify for much of the state or federal relief funding other childcare programs did.

BACKGROUND

California has one Migrant Childcare Alternative Payment Program. It is operated out of the Community Action Partnership (CAP) of Kern.

To obtain childcare, migrant workers must enter through a CAP office in one of the following cities: Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Tulare and Fresno. Once they have signed up through that office, they can use their childcare voucher wherever they work.

SOLUTION

SB 393 aligns the Migrant Childcare program's funding stream with other voucher-based programs. The bill also requires reimbursement for ongoing approvable costs, recognizing the unique needs of migrant childcare provider systems.

SUPPORT

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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SUPPORT

Community Action Partnership of Kern

(sponsor)