

Alameda County Planning Council Legislative Tracking and Positions: 2020-2021
As of 11/19/20

State Legislation

Note: The 2019-2020 Legislative Session ended on August 31st, 2020. The Governor had until September 30th, 2020 to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature.

Bill Number & Author	Bill Summary	Legislative Status	Pros and Cons	Planning Council Position
SB 820	<p>Education Budget Trailer Bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a waiver for family fees from September 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 for families where all children enrolled in subsidized care remain at home, either for distance learning or shelter in place Adds up to 14 paid nonoperational days for providers if closed for COVID-related reasons Provides additional clarification regarding the Budget Bill enacted in June (see <i>Analysis of CA 2020-2021 Budget Impact on ECE</i> for more detail) 	Passed by the Legislature (8/31); Signed by Governor (9/21)	<p><u>Pros:</u> Provides clarity to providers and families regarding COVID-related program and funding adjustments.</p> <p><u>Cons:</u> Reassigns some funding intended for provider stipends in the June Budget Bill for other purposes.</p>	No formal position.
AB 123 McCarty	Extends eligibility for subsidized child care to children in families with Medi-Cal and CalFresh recipients; waives family fees for distance learning; authorizes CSPP to serve two-year-olds in extenuating circumstances; and allows providers to serve children 0-12 years old in comingled classrooms for FY 2020-21, among other provisions.	Held under submission by Senate (8/20)	<p><u>Pros:</u> Portions of the bill will help ensure access to care during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the family fee waiver for distance learning.</p> <p><u>Cons:</u> CalFresh and Medi-Cal eligibility rules could result in implementation challenges.</p>	The Public Policy Committee discussed the bill on 8/5 and proposed further discussion to better understand the bill's strengths and weaknesses.
AB 125 McCarty	Creates a single regionalized reimbursement rate system for child care, preschool, and early learning services. Also establishes quality adjustment factors by age ranges.	Held under submission by Senate (8/20)	<p><u>Pros:</u> Could result in a more equitable reimbursement system across programs and services.</p> <p><u>Cons:</u> None at present.</p>	No formal position
AB 1001 Ting	Establishes a \$1 billion bond to provide loans to school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools for energy-related school resiliency	Amended (6/29) and re-referred to	<u>Pros:</u> The bill would help ensure that schools are prepared for future disasters.	No formal position

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	projects to help ensure provision of services to the community during a natural disaster.	Committee on Education (7/2)	<u>Cons:</u> None at present.	
AB 2546 Grayson	Prohibits a family child care licensee from being absent from the family child care home for more than 30% of the hours for which they are providing care. Current regulations require that a licensee is absent no more than 20% of the time.	Re-referred to Committee on Human Services (5/5)	<u>Pros:</u> None at present. <u>Cons:</u> None at present.	No formal position
AB 2552 Patterson	Includes homeless children as a first priority for subsidized child care. Children experiencing homelessness would not need to provide a fixed address and cannot be immediately denied for failure to show documentation of immunizations. Requires providers to conduct outreach to families experiencing homelessness.	Hearing postponed in Committees on Human Services and Education (4/6)	<u>Pros:</u> Could increase access to child care for homeless children, which is critical for providing greater stability for homeless families. <u>Cons:</u> None at present.	No formal position
AB 2581 Reyes	Directs the transition of early childhood development programs (except for CSPP) to a single administering entity (or entities) and establishes an interagency workgroup to guide the transition.	Passed by Assembly (6/10) and referred to Senate Committee on Education (7/1)	<u>Pros:</u> Could result in improved coordination and streamlining between agencies and programs. <u>Cons:</u> Would distance ECE programs from the education ecosystem and could result in some programs having two administering agencies.	No formal position
AB 2883 Quirk Silva	Requires AP programs to reimburse child care providers for the maximum certified hours of care for families with variable schedules or those accessing part-time care, rather than based on the actual days and hours of attendance. Also allows programs to provide notice of changes related to child care services on the day of action, among other provisions.	Passed by Assembly (6/10) and referred to Senate Committee on Education (7/1)	<u>Pros:</u> Helps bring parity to child care providers accepting child care vouchers, particularly as hours and days of care vary due to the COVID-19 pandemic. <u>Cons:</u> None at present.	No formal position

Federal Legislation

Bill Number, Title & Author	Bill Summary	Legislative Status	Pros and Cons	Planning Council Position
Updated HEROES Act	COVID-19 relief package proposed by House Democrats. Includes \$50 billion for Child Care Stabilization Grants, \$7 billion for Child Care and Development Block Grants to provide immediate assistance to child care providers, and \$1.7 billion for Head Start, among other COVID-19 relief.	Released to the public (9/29)	<u>Pros:</u> Provides the most significant relief to child care providers during the pandemic among recent COVID-19 relief proposals. <u>Cons:</u> None at present.	No formal position.
S. 4688 Rebuilding a Better Child Care Infrastructure Act (Wyden)	Appropriates an additional \$10 billion for the Child Care Entitlement to States (CCES) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, \$15 billion for CCES in FY 2022, and \$3 billion for CCES in FYs 2021-2025. This funding will be used to create COVID-19 pandemic child care assistance grants and improve child care supply, quality, and affordability.	Introduced in Senate and referred to Committee on Finance (9/24)	<u>Pros:</u> Provides relief to child care providers during the pandemic. <u>Cons:</u> Research indicates that this amount is likely to be insufficient to provide stability to the country's ECE system.	No formal position.
H.R. 8326 Child Care is Economic Development Act of 2020 (Finkenauer)	Amends the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to require some grant recipients to develop a comprehensive economic development strategy that directly or indirectly increases access to affordable, quality child care.	Passed by the House (11/17) and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (11/18)	<u>Pros:</u> Could result in increased access to child care. <u>Cons:</u> None at present.	No formal position.
'March to Common Ground' COVID-19 Relief Proposal	COVID-19 relief package proposed by the bi-partisan House Problem Solvers Caucus. Includes \$15 billion for child care, including \$10 billion for provider relief and \$5 billion for CCDBG. Also includes funding for a second round of Payment Protection Program loans for some small businesses and a second round of direct stimulus checks to households, among other COVID-19 assistance.	Released to the public (9/15)	<u>Pros:</u> Provides relief to child care providers during the pandemic. <u>Cons:</u> Research indicates that \$15 billion will be insufficient to provide stability to the country's ECE system.	No formal position.

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<p>Delivering Immediate Relief to America’s Families, Schools and Small Businesses Act</p>	<p>Revised COVID-19 relief package proposed by Senate Republicans in early September. Includes \$15 billion in emergency funding for child care: \$10 billion for a Child Care Stabilization Fund provided to states and \$5 billion in CCDBG funding for Back to Work Child Care Grants (see S. 4221). Grant recipients must certify that they will remain open for at least 1 year after receiving the grant.</p>	<p>Original bill amended on for this purpose (9/08). Senate voted to consider bill for a final vote but motion did not pass (9/10).</p>	<p><u>Pros:</u> Provides relief to child care providers during the pandemic. <u>Cons:</u> Research indicates that \$15 billion will be insufficient to provide stability to the country’s ECE system.</p>	<p>No formal position</p>
<p>S. 4322 Safely Back to School and Back to Work Act (Alexander)</p>	<p>Part of the HEALS Act, a proposed COVID-19 relief package introduced by Senate Republicans in late July. Includes \$15 billion in emergency funding for child care: \$10 billion for a Child Care Stabilization Fund provided to states and \$5 billion in CCDBG funding for Back to Work Child Care Grants (see S. 4221). Grant recipients must certify that they will remain open for at least 1 year after receiving the grant.</p>	<p>Introduced and referred to Senate HELP Committee (7/27)</p>	<p><u>Pros:</u> Provides relief to child care providers during the pandemic. <u>Cons:</u> Research indicates that \$15 billion will be insufficient to provide stability to the country’s ECE system.</p>	<p>No formal position</p>
<p>S. 4221 Back to Work Child Care Grants Act of 2020 (Ernst)</p>	<p>Establishes the Back to Work Child Care Grants which would provide grants to child care providers for up to 9 months of assistance for fixed costs and increased operating expenses due to COVID-19.</p>	<p>Introduced and referred to Senate HELP Committee (7/20); Bill included in Senate Republican proposed COVID-19 relief package, announced in late July (see S. 4322)</p>	<p><u>Pros:</u> Provides relief to child care providers during the pandemic. <u>Cons:</u> Child care providers will need more than 9 months of assistance to address the long-term impact of COVID-19.</p>	<p>No formal position</p>
<p>H.R. 7027 Child Care is Essential Act (DeLauro) Related Bill: S. 3874 (Murray)</p>	<p>Establishes a \$50 billion Child Care Stabilization Fund to award grants to child care providers during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>HR 7072 passed by House (7/29) and referred to Senate Committee on Appropriations (7/30); S 3874 introduced and referred to Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee (6/03)</p>	<p><u>Pros:</u> Provides significant relief funding for child care providers who are struggling to reopen and remain open during the pandemic. <u>Cons:</u> None at present.</p>	<p>Support – the Executive Committee sent an advocacy letter to the County’s Federal Delegation urging support for the bill</p>

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H.R. 7327 Child Care for Economic Recovery Act (Lowey)	Provides \$10 billion for child care infrastructure needs, increases funds for the Child Care Entitlement to States program, and establishes a new refundable payroll tax credit for child care providers, among other provisions.	Passed by House (7/29) and referred to Senate Committee on Appropriations (7/30)	<u>Pros:</u> Likely to improve access to child care across the country. <u>Cons:</u> None at present.	Support
H.R. 2 Moving Forward Act (DeFazio)	Cross-sector infrastructure bill, which includes \$10 billion in grants for ECE facilities needs over four years, including both longstanding issues and new challenges due to COVID-19.	Passed by House (7/1) and received in Senate (7/20)	<u>Pros:</u> Recognizes important need for increased ECE facilities funds, particularly in light of COVID-19. <u>Cons:</u> Bill may have potential unintended consequences in other sectors.	Support
H.R. 6800 HEROES Act (Lowey)	COVID-19 relief package that includes \$7 billion in child care funding.	Passed by House (5/15); Heard by Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship (7/23)	<u>Pros:</u> Recognizes need for increased relief for child care system. <u>Cons:</u> Research indicates that \$7 billion will be insufficient to provide stability to the country's ECE system.	No formal position
H.R. 7436 Working Families Child Care Access Act (Walorski)	Would allow parents to contribute up to \$15,000 per year to a dependent care Flexible Spending Account (FSA) that can be used explicitly for child care purposes.	Introduced and referred to House Ways and Means Committee (6/30)	<u>Pros:</u> Intended to provide working families with increased flexibility to pay for child care. <u>Cons:</u> May not benefit lower-income families who do not have access to FSAs.	No formal position
S. 4112 Coronavirus Child Care and Education Relief Act (Murray)	Establishes a \$50 billion Child Care Stabilization Fund and provides \$33 billion in a Governor's fund for ECE, K-12, and higher education, among other provisions.	Introduced and referred to the Senate HELP Committee (6/30)	<u>Pros:</u> Provides significant relief funding for child care providers who are struggling to reopen and remain open during the pandemic. <u>Cons:</u> None at present.	Support