

February 25, 2022

The Honorable Toni G. Atkins President pro Tempore, State Senate Chair, 1021 O Street, Suite 8518 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner Chair, Senate Committee on Budget & Fiscal Review 1020 N Street, Room 502 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable John Laird Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee #1 1020 N Street, Room 502 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Susan Talamantes Eggman Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee #3 1020 N Street, Room 502 Sacramento, CA 95814 The Honorable Anthony Rendon Speaker, State Assembly State Capitol, Room 219 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Philip Ting Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget 1021 O Street, Suite 8230 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Joaquin Arambula Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1 1021 O Street, Suite 8230 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Kevin McCarty Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2 1021 O Street, Suite 8230 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Updated Budget Request for Child Care Family Fees: \$187 Million

Dear Early Childhood Champions:

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed how the need for affordable child care touches every facet of our society and the disproportionate impact that the lack of care has on women and mothers of color. One way the state has mitigated this impact is through the suspension of family fees. Since July 1, 2021 California families have experienced much needed stability during a sustained period of profound uncertainty. Parents have been able to pay for necessities such as rent, food and utilities because they have been granted more financial liberty to choose how to spend their earned income.

26,578 families have benefited from the suspension of family fees from July 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022.¹ Families who are charged fees have saved an average of \$250 per month, with hundreds of families saving nearly \$600 per month. Thus far, waiving fees has kept \$48.3 million dollars in the pockets of California's working families statewide giving them the disposable income that generates economic activity in their local economy.²

Accordingly, we request \$187 million in the FY 2022-23 state budget to waive family fees

through September 30, 2024 as permitted with the American Rescue Act of 2021, Child Care Development Block Grant Act Discretionary Supplemental Funds.³ We also ask for this year's state budget agreement to adhere to the provisions outlined in Assembly Bill 92 (Gómez Reyes).

Child care truly makes all other work possible by keeping our children thriving, parents working, and our economy running. Waiving family fees and making child care more affordable will extend instant relief to parents while keeping child care providers whole, and ensure the economic recovery of California is inclusive of women of color.

Sincerely,

Mary Ignatius, Parent Voices CA Linda Asato, CA Child Care Resource & Referral Network Donna Sneeringer, Child Care Resource Center Laurie Furstenfeld, Child Care Law Center Sue Miller and Kathi Harper, American Association of University Women CA Kimberly Rosenberger, SEIU California/Child Care Providers United Beverly Yu, UDW AFSCME Local 3930/Child Care Providers United

¹ Based on data from the California Department of Social Services, Feb. 11, 2022. 26,578 does not include families enrolled in CalWORKs Stage One Child Care (most families in Stage One receive cash assistance or earn under 40% of state median income (SMI) which makes them exempt from paying family fees), full-day California State Preschool (CSPP), California State Program for Special Needs Children (CHAN), and other families who are exempt from family fees such as families who receive CalWORKs cash assistance, qualify based on having a child who receives child protective services or is at-risk thereof, or earn less than 40% of the SMI.

 ² Families saved an estimated \$6.9 million per month based on statewide data collected by the California Department of Social Services for October 2021. This amounts to a total of \$48.3 million from July 1, 2021 to Jan. 31, 2022.

³ American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2, §§ 2201(a) and (c) (2021). *See also* U.S. Dep't of Health & Human Srvcs., *Information memorandum ARP Act CCDF Discretionary Supplemental Funds* 10-11 (2021), *available at* <u>https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/occ/CCDF-ACF-IM-2021-03.pdf</u>. This budget request is based on a cost estimate of \$6.9 million per month for 27 months, Jul. 1, 2022 through Sep. 30, 2024. This letter replaces our November 1, 2021 budget request of \$84 million budget to waive family fees.

Virginia Aceves, Child Care Provider Active Learners Arin Adolph, Parent Salina Ahtye, Parent Lourdes Alarcon, Parent and Child Care Provider Stacie Andrews, Child Care Provider Celia Arce, Child Care Provider Oneida Arevalo, Parent Araceli Avila, Child Care Provider Alice's Delagarza Family Child Care Home Alinas Family Daycare All Day Fun & Play Preschool & Child Care Center Almada's Family Child Care Ana's Family Childcare Anabel y Ricardo Quijano Carreon Family Child Care Anette Carrillo Family Child Care / Valley Montessori Daycare Angeles Family Child Care Annabel's Family Childcare ASG Strategy Consulting Inc. Abril Bahena, Parent **Bailon Family Child Care** Judith Baker Monina Balagtas, Parent Catalina Barrera, Parent **Bay Area Council Bojorquez Family Child Care** Bonilla Family Child-Care Maria Nancy Botello, Parent Bright Minds Montessori By Karla's Child Care **Burgos Family Child Care** California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPPA)

California Association for the Education of Young Children (CAAEYC) California Family Child Care Network California Partnership to End Domestic Violence Callejo Inc. Childcare Camacho Family Day Care Pamela Campos, Parent Paola Campos, Parent Rosa Cardenas, Family Child Care Provider Silvia Cárdenas, Child Care Provider **Carousel Preschool and Childcare** Cesar Carrasco. Parent Paula Carrasco, Parent Blanca Carrillo, Child Care Provider Pamela Castaneda, Parent Castillo Family Child Care Cristina Castillo, Child Care Provider Margarita Castillo, Family Child Care Provider Veronica Castillon, Child Care Provider Maria Castro, Child Care Provider Ceferina Camarena Family Childcare Janett Ceja, Child Care Provider Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) Ivy Chang, Parent Chepetla Reina y Tayde Family Child Care Child Action, Inc. Child Development Associates Children Now Children's Council of San Francisco Circle of Friends Child Care Center Ana Cisneros, Parent Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County **Connections for Children Contreras Family Childcare** Jenny c, Child Care Provider

Deborah Corley, Family Child Care Provider Joanna Corona, Child Care Provider Nallely Correa, Parent Margaret Corrigan, Parent Juana Cortez, Child Care Provider Council for a Strong America, ReadyNation & Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Crystal Stairs, Inc. Nicole Culclager, Parent Claudine Davis, Parent Paula De Manuel **Discovery Montessori Preschool** Melanie Dodson-Bolin, Parent and Child Care Provider El Camino Kids Klub **Eileen's Family Childcare** Equal Rights Advocates Fabiola Escobar, Family Child Care Provider Maria Esparaza, Child Care Provider Rosa Estrada, Family Child Care Provider Adriana Estrella, Family Child Care Provider Estrellas Del Mañana Family Childcare EveryChild California Claudia Fabian, Parent Naima Facih, Parent Fairfax-San Anselmo Children's Center Nicole Fassold, Parent Family Resource & Referral Center Jenny Fannin, Child Care Provider Elia Fernandez, Parent Celia Flores, Child Care Provider Veronica Flores, Family Child Care Provider Fountains of Fun Daycare Friends Committee on Legislation of California First 5 California Sheila Fulmer, Child Care Provider Setsuko Furuike

Gabby's Family Childcare Noni Galloway, Parent Dalila García, Family Child Care Provider María de los Angeles García, Family Child Care Provider Garcia Family Childcare Garcia's Family Child Care Cindy Garcia, Parent Taylor Garcia, Parent Giggle Land Child Care Yadira Giron, Parent Martha Gomez, Parent Gloria Gonzalez, Child Care Provider Lucille Goodwin, Parent Gracie's Family Day Care Marcella Graves, Child Care Provider Griselda's Family Day Care Dina Guerra, Family Child Care Provider Guillermina Garduño, Child Care Provider Gurmilan Family Child Care Alejandro Gutiérrez, Parent María del Carmen Gutiérrez, Child Care Provider Cinthya Hernandez, Parent Lourdes Hernandez, Parent Maria Hernandez, Family Child Care Provider Martha & Jose Hernandez, Family Child Care Provider Mayra Hernandez, Child Care Provider Rosa Hernandez, Child Care Provider Carla Henry, Child Care Provider **Hickenbottom Family Child Care** Jacqueline Higgs, Child Care Provider Hively Alma Huerta, Parent I.B. Family Child Care Maria Ibarra, Family Child Care Provider

Imperial Learning Center J & S Family Daycare Maria Jandres, Parent Joana's Family Childcare Juanita's Day Care Maria Juarez, Child Care Provider Juana Kaiser, Child Care Provider June Kealoha-Hall, Parent Angela Khani, Child Care Provider Kidango, Inc. Kimosa Daycare Yolanda Lacarra, Family Child Care Provider Lafargue Family Child Care Susan Larara, Parent Law Office of Jhette Diamond, P.C. Legal Aid at Work Jerri Leighton, Parent Leon Rosalinda Family Child Care Lety's Childcare April Leung, Parent Rachel Lewis, Parent Little Feet Family Childcare LiL Giggles Daycare Little Blossoms Childcare Little Lions Daycare Little Planet Family Childcare Little Rascals Little Treasures Family Childcare Elsa Félix Lizárraga, Family Child Care Provider Lopez Daycare Anabell Lopez Soto, Parent Dora Lopez, Family Child Care Provider Elva Lopez, Parent Hilda Lopez, Parent Miriam Lopez, Family Child Care Provider María Ofelia Lopez, Child Care Provider Love to Learn

Lucas Family Child Care Duy Mai, Parent and Child Care Provider Magda Macias Family Childcare Madkins Family Childcare Magic Smile Day Care Marce Family Child Care Aurelia Mariscal, Child Care Provider Edma Marquez, Parent Magdalena Martínez Sierra, Child Care Provider Nancy Marroquin, Child Care Provider Denise Marzett, Child Care Provider Mathison Family Daycare Elvia McKinley, Parent Tonia McMillian, Child Care Provider Miles of Smiles Family Child Care Mitchell Fielder Family Childcare Mitchells Family Childcare Georgina Molina-Villegas, Child Care Provider Mommy Rabbit FDC Montelongos Fam♥Child Care Alexis Munoz, Parent My Playhouse Childcare My Village Manny National Council of Jewish Women-California National Women's Political Caucus of California María Neri, Parent Northern Directors Group Nufio Family Child Care Sienna O'Banion, Parent **Oakland Starting Smart and Strong** Only Love Children's Center Parent Voices Fresno Parent Voices Oakland Parent Voices San Francisco

Parent Voices Santa Clara Parent Voices Sonoma PEACH Early Childhood Higher Education Collaborative Cheryl Perez, Parent Noemi Perez, Child Care Provider Leticia Perez, Child Care Provider Laura Pether-Acosta, Parent Amy Petrovich, Parent Pinwheel Family Child Care Home Diana Pitones, Child Care Provider Enedina Porras, Child Care Provider Prasad Saileshni and Ajay Family Child Care Public Counsel Olga Ramirez, Child Care Provider Lorenia Ramirez, Child Care Provider Sonia Ramírez, Child Care Provider Marlen Remache, Family Child Care Provider Alexandra Rios, Child Care Provider Araceli Rivera, Family Child Care Provider Josefina Rocha, Child Care Provider Francis Rodriguez, Family Child Care Provider Maribel Rodriguez, Parent Veronica Rodriguez, Family Child Care Provider Ysabelle Rosales. Parent Esperanza Rosas, Parent **Ruiz Heather Family Child Care Home Ruthena Family Daycare** Saint Vincent's Day Home June Sale Bris Saligan, Parent Christina San Nicholas, Child Care Provider Eva Sanchez, Parent Natalie Sanchez Silvia Sanchez, Family Child Care Provider

Sandra's Family Childcare Milena Sanhueza, Child Care Provider Lorena Santana, Parent Lucy Sawtell Dora Seaton-Msemaji, Child Care Provider Varsha Sharma, Child Care Provider Esperanza Silva, Family Child Care Provider Kanika Singh, Parent Artemio Sixtos, Parent Smartstartdaycare Rodrigo Sotelo, Parent Guadalupe Soto, Child Care Provider Bess Sternberg Stokes Family Childcare Shevalier Swanson, Parent Sweet Steps Family Daycare Subia Family Child Care Super Kidz Family Child Care The Wolf Pack Child Care Ana Torres, Family Child Care Provider Toledo's Daycare Blanca Tiznado, Child Care Provider Trini Tinoco, Child Care Provider Nyny Tran, Parent United Ways of California Untitled No. 1 School Silvia Uribe, Child Care Provider Iris Urrutia, Child Care Provider Martha Valdez, Parent Sandra Valencia, Parent Claudia Valladares, Child Care Provider Marisela Vallejo, Child Care Provider Valley Oak Children's Services Laura Vargas, Parent Lilia Araceli Vázquez, Family Child Care Provider Vianey Vazquez Child Care Olivia Vasquez, Parent

Alma Vega, Family Child Care Provider Leticia Vigil, Family Child Care Provider Cynthia Villa, Child Care Provider Villegas Family Child Care Maria Vizcarra, Family Child Care Provider Guadalupe Vizcarra, Child Care Provider Wasson Family Child Care Wee Tymes Playschool Sheila Whipple, Parent Tsering Yangchen, Child Care Provider Sherese Young, Child Care Provider Gilda Zandi, Family Child Care Provider Noemi Zavala, Family Child Care Provider