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# Assembly California Legislature



**ELOISE GÓMEZ REYES**

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**COMMITTEES**  
AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE  
BUDGET  
JUDICIARY  
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
UTILITIES AND ENERGY  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 2 ON  
EDUCATION FINANCE  
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

## AB 92: The Affordable Child Care Family Fees Act

### SUMMARY

This bill alleviates the burdens that families face in paying for child care by creating an equitable sliding scale for family fees.

### EXISTING LAW/BACKGROUND

California is one of the most expensive states for parents who need child care services. In Los Angeles County and statewide, the average two-parent working family spends around 20% of their annual income on child care.

While there are a number of State and Federally-funded programs that help families pay for child care, these programs still require them to pay family fees, which can make subsidized care unaffordable. Many California families pay hundreds of dollars per month, up to \$595, in family fees. Family fees account for almost 10% of some families' income. With limited disposable income, working families struggle to pay high fees and are forced to make difficult decisions about their basic needs. A recent study found that, in Sacramento County, at least 10% of families paying fees are on payment plans for back fees they have been unable to afford.

These families are at significant risk of losing their subsidized child care which can, in turn, jeopardize their employment, education, or well-being. This places them at greater risk of reliance on the state's other welfare programs and prevents families from rising out of poverty and gaining wealth. As their income increases, so do their family fees, which then erase any economic gains they have made.

The COVID-19 pandemic has only heightened the need for affordable child care for families and communities of color, who are a significant part of California's essential workforce. The California legislature has responded by extending the suspension of family fees for all families until June 30, 2023 in the FY 22-23 budget. Thousands of parents have greatly benefited from this relief and will continue to need affordable child care to provide for their families well past this fiscal year.

### THIS BILL

This bill will ensure families can afford to keep their child care when family fees resume on July 1, 2023 by requiring that family fees do not exceed 1% of a family's monthly income and that no family earning below 75% of the state median income (SMI) pays family fees. AB 92 also protects child care providers by ensuring they are paid the full child care subsidy amount and that the number of child care spaces are not reduced on account of a reduction in family fees.

By increasing the affordability of child care to working families, AB 92 will benefit the state's economic recovery by helping parents remain in the workforce and achieve economic stability.

### SUPPORT

Parent Voices (Co-Sponsor)  
Child Care Resource Center (Co-Sponsor)  
Child Care Law Center (Co-Sponsor)  
California Child Care Resource and Referral Network (Co-sponsor)  
American Association of University Women (Co-sponsor)

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Alliance of Californians for Community  
Empowerment (ACCE) Action  
C5 Children's School  
California Alternative Payment Program  
Association  
California Association of Student Councils  
California Commission on the Status of Women  
and Girls  
California Family Child Care Network  
California Women's Law Center  
California Work and Family Coalition  
Child Action, Inc.  
Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles  
Child Care Providers United (CCPU)  
Children Now  
Children's Council of San Francisco  
Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice  
Coalition of California Welfare Rights  
Organizations  
Community Change Action  
Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County  
County of San Bernardino  
Courage California  
Early Care and Education Consortium  
Early Care Educators of San Francisco  
Early Edge California  
Equal Rights Advocates  
EveryChild California  
Family Child Care Association of San Francisco  
First 5 California  
First 5 San Bernardino  
Good Samaritan Family Resource Center  
Indivisible CA Statestrong  
Kai Ming Head Start  
Kidango  
Los Angeles Unified School District  
Low Income Investment Fund  
National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW)  
Parent Voices San Francisco  
Parent Voices of San Mateo County  
San Francisco Child Care Planning and Advisory  
Council  
San Francisco ECE Advocacy Coalition  
Silicon Valley Community Foundation  
The Children's Partnership  
The Future of Supporting Family Child Care  
True Sunshine Preschool Center  
Untitled No. 1 School

Women's Foundation California  
Work Equity Action Fund  
Wu Yee Children's Services

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