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COMMITTEES CHAIR: INSURANCE APPROPRIATIONS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HUMAN SERVICES UTILITIES AND ENERGY

February 28, 2023

The Honorable Phil Ting, Chair Assembly Budget Committee 1021 O Street, Suite 8230 Sacramento, CA 95814 The Honorable Kevin McCarty, Chair Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 1021 O Street, Suite 4250 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: 2023-2024 State Budget Request – One-Time \$10 Million Childcare Facilities Funding for Repair and Renovation of Existing Child Care Facilities

Dear Assemblymember Ting and Assemblymember McCarty,

I am writing to request \$10 million in one-time funding from the 2023-2024 State Budget towards early learning and care facilities through the Child Care and Development Infrastructure Grant Program (Program). This funding would continue to support childcare providers needing assistance in repairing and/or renovating their existing childcare facilities. This ensures that the children they serve have quality learning environments.

Whether home or center-based, childcare providers throughout the state have diverse needs in maintaining safe environments. With your leadership last year, I championed an investment of \$100.5 million from the General Fund for the Program to help provide critical resources that providers could apply for. This funding supplemented the \$250 million investment from the federal American Rescue Plan Act in the fiscal year 2021-2022. These efforts have been instrumental in helping address a myriad of childcare facility-related needs.

The Program has demonstrated successful outcomes thus far. In 2022, more than 5,000 providers requested over \$380 million to upgrade and retrofit their program spaces. There has been statewide participation in the Program, as providers from all 58 counties submitted applications for funding. In Los Angeles County alone, \$42.5 million was awarded to over 730 applicants. In addition to refurbishing facilities, the County was able to add over 23,000 childcare spaces as a direct result of the Program. Unfortunately, the Program only had \$200 million available for repair and renovation grants, with unmet facility needs for hundreds of providers remaining.

For these reasons, childcare investments for safe facilities must remain a priority for the Legislature.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Liza Calderon

Lisa Calderon Assemblymember, District 56

Jube Boener Jermet

Tasha Boerner Horvath Assemblymember, District 77

Lecura In Aquias lung

Cecilia Aguiar-Curry Assemblymember, District 4

Diane Papan Assemblymember, District 21

cc: Christian Griffith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee Erin Gabel, Early Childhood Education Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee