

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 1914 (Schiavo) – As Amended April 27, 2026

Policy Committee:	Local Government	Vote:	8 - 1
	Human Services		5 - 1

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: Yes Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill requires each city, county, or city and county to adopt or integrate a childcare plan into the next adoption or revision of its general plan by January 1, 2033, to address the childcare needs of the jurisdiction.

The bill authorizes a city or county that has adopted a similar childcare plan that meets this bill’s requirements to designate the existing childcare plan as compliant.

FISCAL EFFECT:

No state costs. Local costs resulting from this bill are not reimbursable by the state because local agencies have general authority to charge and adjust planning and permitting fees to cover their administrative expenses associated with new planning mandates.

COMMENTS:

1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

As rising living costs and threats to cut funding from the federal government continue to create additional barriers to affordable child care, it is increasingly important to examine child care accessibility as communities plan for future growth and infrastructure needs. Instead of relying solely on ad hoc solutions to address child care accessibility, I believe [this bill] is a promising strategy to promote greater consistency and consideration of child care in earlier stages of local planning, while preserving local discretion.

2) **Background. General Plans.** State law requires each jurisdiction to adopt a general plan governing the use of land within its boundaries. The general plan must include specified elements, including a land use element that designates allowable uses such as residential, commercial or open spaces, and a housing element that plans for the location and density of housing. All major land use decisions, such as zoning ordinances and development approvals, must be consistent with the general plan, which also establishes policies, standards, and mitigation measures related to issues such as flood and fire hazards, climate change, and environmental justice.

Local governments enact zoning ordinances that establish the types of land uses that are allowed or authorized in an area. Zoning ordinances also contain provisions to physically

shape development and impose other requirements, such as setting maximum heights and densities for housing units, minimum numbers of required parking spaces, setbacks, and lot coverage ratios. These ordinances can also include conditions on development to address aesthetics, community impacts, or other particular site-specific considerations.

This bill requires, by January 1, 2033, every county and city, including a charter city, to adopt or integrate a childcare plan into its general plan.

- 3) ***Local Childcare Planning Councils (LPCs)***. Each county in California has an LPC established to identify local childcare priorities and develop policies to address those needs. State law requires the county board of supervisors and the county superintendent of schools to appoint members to these councils, ensuring balanced representation of consumers, childcare providers, public agency representatives, community representatives, and discretionary appointees. LPCs are responsible for conducting a countywide childcare needs assessment at least once every five years, developing comprehensive plans to mobilize public and private resources and to address identified needs, and ensuring community input in setting local priorities. Many LPCs have developed these strategic plans informed by needs assessment and community feedback gathered through forums.

This bill allows cities and counties that have adopted a similar childcare plan, either within or separate from the general plan, to designate that plan as compliant.

- 4) **Related Legislation**. AB 2083 (Jackson), of this legislative session, establishes the Moreno Valley-Perris Childcare Special District for the purpose of, among other things, expanding childcare capacity and access through the development, coordination, and operation of universal childcare programs. AB 2083 is pending in this committee.

AB 2006 (M. Rodriguez), of this legislative session, requires the state to prioritize space in newly constructed, acquired, or renovated state-owned office buildings for licensed childcare providers to operate daycare centers. AB 2006 is pending in this committee.

Analysis Prepared by: Jennifer Swenson / APPR. / (916) 319-2081