

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
 Buffy Wicks, Chair  
 AB 2006 (Michelle Rodriguez) – As Amended March 2, 2026

Policy Committee:	Human Services Governmental Organization	Vote: 7 - 0 22 - 0
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Urgency: No                      State Mandated Local Program: No                      Reimbursable: No

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the state to prioritize space in a newly constructed, acquired, or renovated state-owned office building for a licensed childcare provider to operate a daycare center, prohibits the state from charging rent to a nonprofit provider that accepts subsidies, and prioritizes enrollment for children of state employees who work in the state-owned building.

Among its provisions, this bill:

- 1) Requires, beginning January 1, 2027, when the state constructs, acquires, or receives as a gift any office building that can accommodate state employees, or when additions, alterations, or repairs are made to any existing state-owned office building, priority to be given to licensed childcare providers that seek to contract with the California Department of General Services (DGS) to use a part of the space as a daycare center.
- 2) Authorizes the Director of DGS to establish lease terms and rental rates, as specified, and requires the use of a space by a licensed childcare provider be subject to the terms and conditions set forth by DGS.
- 3) Prohibits, notwithstanding item 2, above, the state from charging rent to licensed childcare providers that use the space as a daycare center if the provider is a nonprofit entity and accepts subsidies.
- 4) Authorizes DGS to secure other space not attached to a state-owned office building for use as a daycare center, if funds are available and certain conditions exist and authorizes existing state-owned office buildings to be retrofitted to accommodate a daycare center at the discretion of DGS, to the extent state funds are available.
- 5) Requires enrollment priority in daycare centers established pursuant to this bill be given first to children of state employees who work in the state-owned office building, next to children of other state employees and, finally, to children of members of the community with a primary residence within a five-mile radius of the state office building.
- 6) Exempts from these provisions office buildings used or owned by the state that provide care or 24-hour residential care for patients, inmates, or wards of the state, such as state hospitals and correctional facilities.

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

- 1) DGS estimates ongoing General Fund costs of \$1.2 million for up to six staff positions to support administrative and oversight functions for an estimated five to 10 new qualifying facilities each year. DGS also notes potential revenue losses in the millions of dollars as a result of the bill's requirement that it not charge rent to licensed childcare providers that are nonprofit entities and accept subsidies.
- 2) The Department of Social Services notes if the bill results in increased childcare provider applications and related licensing duties, additional resources would be needed for state operations.

**COMMENTS:**

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

Access to safe, reliable, and affordable child care is essential for working families across California. For many parents, the availability of child care determines whether they can remain in the workforce, support their families, and contribute to their communities. Yet, California continues to face a significant shortage of child care options, leaving many families struggling to find care they can trust and afford. By prioritizing space within state-owned office buildings for licensed child care providers, the measure helps expand access to care for both state employees and surrounding communities.

- 2) **Background.** Existing law requires the state to include childcare facilities when it constructs or remodels a state office building that accommodates at least 700 state employees, if a review by DGS and others determines there is sufficient need to serve at least 30 children. Existing law also authorizes DGS to secure off-site childcare facilities for the same purpose if funds are available and certain conditions exist. Existing state office buildings may also be retrofitted to include childcare facilities if funding is available. Any childcare space in a state-owned office building must meet state and local safety and building standards for childcare programs, including indoor and outdoor space requirements established in Title 22 regulations. DGS establishes the terms for using this space, including rent, financial responsibility, and maintenance.

Existing law requires state departments using a new or renovated building to notify employees if space is available for a childcare center prior to occupancy of a new building or completion of renovations. Employee occupants who want to operate a center are required to form a nonprofit organization, deposit two months' rent, and sign a contract with DGS. In addition, employees must navigate childcare licensing requirements and contract with a provider to operate the center. Children of state employees are given priority enrollment. After a center has operated for five years, DGS must evaluate the childcare needs of employees and the office space needs of the building. Based on the assessment, DGS may close the childcare center after providing 90 days' written notice.

This bill requires the state to prioritize space for a daycare center in any new or renovated state office building that can accommodate any number of state employees, rather than 700 or more, when a licensed childcare provider seeks to contract with DGS to use part of the

space as a daycare center. The bill authorizes DGS to contract directly with a licensed childcare provider to operate in these buildings rather than requiring state employee-occupants to form a nonprofit and assume responsibility for establishing and managing the childcare center.

- 3) **Related Legislation.** AB 1914 (Schiavo), of this legislative session, requires cities and counties, beginning with general plan updates on or after January 1, 2028, to integrate childcare into multiple planning elements. AB 1914 is pending in this committee.

AB 2083 (Jackson), of this legislative session, establishes the Moreno Valley-Perris Childcare Special District as a dependent special district governed by local city and school district appointees to expand childcare capacity. AB 2083 is pending in this committee.

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