CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS
AB 2006 (Michelle Rodriguez)
As Amended August 21, 2026
Majority vote

## SUMMARY

Authorizes the state to prioritize space in state-owned office buildings for licensed childcare providers that seek to contract to use a part of the space as a daycare center. Permits the Department of General Services (DGS) Director to make the space available at a rate to be established based upon specified conditions, whichever is less.

**Senate Amendments**

1) Authorize, instead of require, priority to be given to licensed childcare providers seeking to use space as a daycare center.

2) Authorize, instead of require, the space to be made available at a rate to be established by the DGS Director based upon the actual cost to the state, the average cost of state-owned space in the area, or the statewide average cost of state-owned space, whichever is less.

3) Clarify that when the additions, alterations, or repairs both change and affect the use of 25% of the net square foot area of the building and include addition to, alteration of, or repair of the first floor, priority is required to be given to licensed childcare providers that seek to contract to use part of the space as a daycare center.

4) Specify that these provisions do not apply to facilities owned, operated, or occupied by the California Highway Patrol.

5) Clarify, under the definition of a "licensed childcare provider," that it includes a person who plans to apply for a childcare license.

## COMMENTS

*State Employee Childcare Facilities in State-Owned Buildings*. SB 764 (Watson), Chapter 913, Statutes of 1980, required 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 determines there is sufficient need to serve at least 30 children. DGS, in consultation with the Child Development Programs Advisory Committee, conducts this review.

SB 831 (Karnette), Chapter 413, Statutes of 1998, authorized DGS to secure off-site childcare facilities if funds are available and if doing so is more cost-effective, would provide a better facility for children, or would address physical or security constraints associated with locating the center within the office building. 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 is required to meet state and local safety and building standards for childcare programs, including indoor and outdoor space requirements established in Title 22 California Code of Regulations.

Existing law authorizes the director to establish the terms for using this space, including rent, financial responsibility, and maintenance. Rent is generally based on the lowest actual cost to the state, the average cost of state-owned space in the area, or the statewide average cost of state-owned space, although the director may charge less if needed to ensure the childcare center operate.

State departments using the building are required to notify employees if space is available for a childcare center prior to occupancy of a new building or completion of renovations. Employees 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. If employees do not complete these steps, the state is authorized to temporarily use the space for other purposes, such as conference rooms, storage, or office space, as long as the space is not permanently changed. If employees later meet the requirements, the state is required to convert the space for childcare use within 180 days.

Children of state employees receive priority enrollment in these childcare facilities. After a center has operated for five years, the director is required to evaluate the childcare needs of employees and the office space needs of the building. If the assessment determines that the building requires additional office space, the director may close the childcare center after providing at least 90 days′ notice.

Research suggests that converting existing buildings, including unused office or public facilities, into childcare centers may help increase the number of licensed childcare slots while making better use of available infrastructure. Studies also indicate that expanding childcare capacity often requires investments that lower operating costs for providers and reduce barriers to establishing new childcare sites. Additionally, reducing administrative and operational barriers may support the creation and long-term sustainability of childcare programs.

Priority for enrollment of children in daycare centers established by *this bill* are first to state employees who work in the state-owned office building, followed by all other state employees, and then members of the community who live within a five-mile radius of the state office building.

**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. This bill takes a practical and compassionate step toward addressing that gap by making better use of existing state resources. 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. At its core, this proposal recognizes a simple truth: when families have access to dependable child care, parents are better able to work, children benefit from safe and supportive environments, and our communities grow stronger."

**Arguments in Support**
A coalition of supporters state, "By streamlining the process for establishing child care centers in state facilities, the bill would reduce administrative barriers, expand access to care for working families, and make more effective use of existing public resources."

**Arguments in Opposition**
None on file.

## FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 3, 2026:

1) The Department of General Services (DGS) estimates ongoing costs of $1.25 million (General Fund) for up to six permanent personnel years (PYs) (in the Associate Real Estate Officer or Senior Real Estate Officer classifications) to support administrative and oversight functions for a projected five to 10 new qualifying facilities each year.

2) The Department of Social Services (DSS) estimates ongoing costs of $551,000 (General Fund) for two PYs (1.0 Licensing Program Analyst and 1.0 Licensing Program Manager) to oversee an increase in childcare provider license applications.

## VOTES:

**ASM HUMAN SERVICES: 7-0-0**
**YES:** Lee, Castillo, Gipson, Elhawary, Jackson, Solache, Tangipa

**ASM GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION: 22-0-0**
**YES:** Blanca Rubio, Davies, Alvarez, Berman, Bryan, Carrillo, Dixon, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Pacheco, Ramos, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria, Ta, Valencia, Wallis

**ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 11-0-4**
**YES:** Wicks, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache
**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Hoover, Dixon, Ta, Tangipa

**ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0-3**
**YES:** Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Irwin, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

## UPDATED

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