
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 563 (Jackson) - Childcare: Early Childhood Policy Council

Version: June 23, 2025

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 18, 2025

Policy Vote: HUMAN S. 5 - 0, ED. 7 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: AB 563 would add to the duties of the Early Childhood Policy Council, as specified.

Fiscal Impact: The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) estimates General Fund costs of \$235,000 in 2025-26 and \$231,000 ongoing thereafter for state administration.

Background: Current law establishes a 27-member Early Childhood Policy Council to advise the Governor, the Legislature, and the CDSS on statewide early learning and care policy, including the planning for, and the implementation and evaluation of, the state's Master Plan for Early Learning and Care and the 2019 California Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education Final Report. The council must maintain at least two ongoing standing advisory committees: a parent advisory committee and a workforce advisory committee. Current law requires that staff for the council and its committees be provided by the California Health and Human Services Agency.

Among its duties, the council must prepare a formal public annual report on the work of the council. The council must also provide specific recommendations directly to the Governor, the Legislature, and the CDSS on all aspects of the state's early childhood education system, including on the following topics:

- Equity, with consideration for demographic, geographic, and economic diversity, and with a focus on family-centered two-generation approaches.
- Opportunities to incorporate a support model of accountability, as opposed to a compliance model of accountability, into the state's early childhood education system.
- Ways that the state's Master Plan for Early Learning and Care and the 2019 California Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education Final Report can be updated and improved.

Proposed Law: Specific provisions of the bill would:

- Require that the formal public annual report by the Early Childhood Policy Council include, at a minimum, the successes, challenges, and gaps in the state's early childhood education systems and recommendations to facilitate advancing the state's vision for children, families, and communities; and require the council to annually submit the report to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature.

- Require the council to develop policy proposals and budget requests for the Legislature to consider related to facility needs, workforce needs, and family access.

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