

KEY STATE LEGISLATION RELATED TO PRESCHOOL

1942

Federal Lanham Act – Public Law 76-849

This bill provided federal funding for states to pay for child care services for working mothers during World War II and was implemented by California in 1943 through a statewide Child Care Center Program administered by the California Department of Education (CDE). In 1946, federal support ended, but California continued to fund the Child Care Center Program, and **AB 136 (Gedde et al)—Chapter 182, Statutes of 1957** made the program permanent.

1965

AB 1331 (Unruh)—Chapter 1248, Statutes of 1965

California established the State Preschool Program, modeled after the federal Head Start Program, to provide low-income children a pre-kindergarten educational experience. The bill also created the Governor's Advisory Committee on Preschool and Educational Programs (later called the Child Development Programs Advisory Committee) which was funded until 2003.

1972

AB 99 (Lewis et al)—Chapter 670, Statutes of 1972

This Child Development Act consolidated all child care and preschool programs into one comprehensive program located in the Department of Education. This Act was later replaced by the Child Care and Development Services Act of **SB 863 (Sieroty et al)—Chapter 798, Statutes of 1980**.

1984

SB 1588 (Watson)—Chapter 1617, Statutes of 1984

This bill established the Child Development Division within the CDE to oversee all child care and development programs, including State Preschool.

1987

AB 2666 (Hannigan)—Chapter 311, Statutes of 1987

Codified new federal law, phased in over four years, requiring preschool-aged children with special needs to receive preschool services and if possible in mainstream preschools.

1988

Proposition 98—Approved by voters in November 1988 general election

This initiative guaranteed a minimum funding level for public education, including child development programs funded by CDE. A 1992 court decision affirmed that non-school district child development programs funded by CDE were also part of the Prop 98 base funding.

1991

SB 500 (Morgan)—Chapter 1190, Statutes of 1991

Implemented the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant, administered by the Department of Education, to expand child development programs and establish quality improvement projects.

SB 965 (Morgan)—Chapter 826, Statutes of 1991

To increase the number of child development professionals pursuing higher education, this bill created a student loan forgiveness program for child development teachers and supervisors who agree to work in a licensed child care center serving low-income families for two years. This bill became a grant program under **AB 957 (Migden)—Chapter 721, Statutes of 1997** which provides 100 grants each academic year to child development students who commit to working at least one year in a licensed preschool or child care center.

AB 2141 (Speier)—Chapter 1187, Statutes of 1991

This bill created Local Child Care and Development Planning Councils (LPC) to identify, among other tasks, local priorities for child care and State Preschool expansion funds.

AB 1670 (Hansen)—Chapter 758, Statutes of 1991

This bill expressed legislative intent to give State Preschool eligibility priority to four-year-olds in part-day programs.

1992

AB 2333 (Clute)—Chapter 1082, Statutes of 1992

This bill allowed public schools to offer better articulation of the early elementary school years from preschool to third grade.

SB 1811 (Bergeson)—Chapter 814, Statutes of 1992

This bill established the following priority order for the State Preschool program: children in child protective services, eligible four-year-olds, and then eligible three-year-olds.

1996

SB 1924 (Dills)—Chapter 1067

Authorized the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to establish and issue child development permits for supervisors and instructional staff of child care and development programs, including State Preschool.

1997

AB 107 (Ducheny)—Chapter 282, Statutes of 1997

This Budget Act of 1997-98 allowed State Preschool program contractors to extend their part-day programs to full-day programs with certain restrictions. Also provided increases in other child care funds including the new three-stage CalWORKs child care system.

1998

Proposition 10—Approved by voters in November 1998 general election

This initiative taxed tobacco products to fund early childhood programs including school readiness initiatives for children ages birth to five. It also established the state Children and Families Commission (also called First 5 California) with the majority of funds administered by county First 5 commissions.

2000

AB 25 (Mazzoni)—Chapter 1022, Statutes of 2000

In order to provide school readiness opportunities, this bill established the voluntary, 10-year Kindergarten Readiness Pilot Program which allowed school districts to change the enrollment age for kindergarten and first grade, and required participating school districts to provide preschool instruction to children who pre-enroll for kindergarten. **AB 1754 (Committee on Budget)—Chapter 227, Statutes of 2004** delayed implementation of AB 25 until 2006-07 and extends the sunset to July 1, 2013. This bill has yet to be funded.

AB 2881 (Wright)—Chapter 77, Statutes of 2000

To increase professional development opportunities, this bill allowed State Preschool teachers who teach in programs located in low-performing school attendance areas to participate in existing K-12 teacher professional development institutes. Funding for this program was eliminated in the 2002 budget by **AB 425 (Oropeza)—Chapter 379, Statutes of 2002**.

AB 212 (Aroner)—Chapter 547, Statutes of 2000

This bill authorized \$15 million, in on-going funds, to Local Child Care and Development Planning Councils for retention stipends for staff working in state-subsidized centers, including State Preschool programs. A similar program for staff in other types of centers is funded by state and local First 5 Commissions.

2002

AB 1539 (Pavley)—Chapter 629, Statutes of 2002

This bill requires information collected on a child, including developmental assessments, in publicly subsidized preschool and child care programs be provided to parents, and encourages the transfer of a child's records from the early education program to the kindergarten teacher.

2003

California Preschool Instructional Network created by the Department of Education

Using federal dollars, the Department of Education established the California Preschool Instructional Network (CPIN) to provide professional development, current research information, and technical assistance to preschool teachers and administrators, with a priority for staff in State Preschool programs.

2006

AB 172 (Chan)—Chapter 211, Statutes of 2006

This bill directs \$50 million from the state budget to expand preschool programs, improve preschool staff training, and create literacy and outreach programs for children who will enter kindergarten the following year and reside in API 1-3 elementary school attendance areas.

AB 1811 (Laird)—Chapter 77, Statutes of 2006

This 2006-2007 state budget funded the State Preschool program at \$397 million (including funds for AB 172), provided an additional \$50 million in one-time funds for the construction and renovation of preschool facilities, and allocated \$1 million for the development of preschool learning standards.

2008

SB 1629 (Steinberg)—Chapter 307, Statutes of 2008

This bill establishes the Early Learning Quality Improvement Advisory Committee, who is required to develop the policy and implementation plan for a Quality Improvement System, including the development of a quality rating scale aligned with a funding model for child care and development programs that serve children birth to 5. The Advisory Committee must submit to the Governor and Legislature an interim report by December 31, 2009 and a final report by December 31, 2010.

AB 2759 (Jones)—Chapter 308, Statutes of 2008

This bill consolidates five existing child care and development programs into one program, named the California State Preschool program, which is the largest state preschool program in the nation with approximately \$814 million in funding. It allows state contracted preschools to provide part or full day services depending on the eligibility and need of the families they serve.

AB 1298 (Simitian)—Chapter 561, Statutes of 2008

This bill would require the California Department of Education to establish a process by which local education agencies issue, maintain, and report information for center-based child care and development programs using the unique pupil identifiers until an appropriation for this purpose is provided in the annual Budget Act or another statute.