



CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2017–2018 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 11

Introduced by Assembly Member McCarty

December 05, 2016

An act relating to child care.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 11, as introduced, McCarty. Child care: Early Head Start.

The Child Care and Development Services Act has a purpose to provide a comprehensive, coordinated, and cost-effective system of child care and development services for children from infancy to 13 years of age and their parents, including a full range of supervision, health, and support services through full- and part-time programs. Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to advise local educational agencies of the federal requirements relating to the Head Start Program.

This bill would make various findings and declarations regarding child care and would provide that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would establish the Early Head Start-Child Care-Early Intervention Partnership and provide funding to establish classroom-based early intervention services to Early Head Start-Child Care programs.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) The future of any society depends on its ability to foster the healthy development of the next generation. Extensive research on the biology of stress now shows that healthy development can be derailed by excessive or prolonged activation of stress response systems in the body and brain. Such toxic stress can have damaging effects on learning, behavior, and health across the lifespan.

(2) When toxic stress response occurs continually, or is triggered by multiple sources, it can have a cumulative toll on an individual's physical and mental health—for a lifetime. The more adverse experiences in childhood, the greater the likelihood of developmental delays and later health problems, including heart disease, diabetes, substance abuse, and depression.

(3) Research also indicates that supportive, responsive relationships with caring adults as early in life as possible can prevent or reverse the damaging effects of toxic stress response.

(b) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that does both of the following:

(1) Establish the Early Head Start-Child Care-Early Intervention Partnership. There currently exists a federal program called the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership, established by the Obama Administration. This partnership provides infants and toddlers living in poverty with full day child care and Early Head Start, which includes early learning, home visitation, and health and mental health services.

(2) Provide funding to establish classroom-based early intervention services to existing and new Early Head Start-Child Care programs for children suffering from toxic stress, who often need intensive early intervention services, such as speech, occupational, developmental, and physical therapy.