

Please send a support letter – On your letter head
Sample Support Letter – Assembly Bill 2150 (Santiago & Weber)
Submit by email to: Daphne.Hunt@asm.ca.gov and Jaspreet.johl@asm.ca.gov
Copy email to: mary@parentvoices.org; lfurstenfeld@childcarelaw.org

Date – Please send by Tuesday, April 5, 2106

Assemblymember Santiago
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0053
Fax: (916) 319-2153

Re: Assembly Bill 2150 (Santiago & Weber) - Support

Dear Chairperson Bonilla:

[Name of Your Organization] supports Assembly Bill 2150 (Santiago & Weber) which would guarantee 12-months of child care assistance, use of current census data to establish income eligibility, and a graduated phase out that allows for tapered assistance to families whose income has increased at the time of re-determination, but still does not exceed the federal income limit of 85% of State Median Income (SMI).

The intent of this bill is to promote continuous child care assistance for children and families for an extended period of time. Working low-income families often experience rapid and multiple changes in income and work-related activities. Retention of child care during a temporary hardship such as unemployment or extended illness alleviates stress on children and families and facilitates parents' smooth transition back into the workforce. Stable child care is critical to strengthen parents' ability to work, improve their prospects in the job market, and increase their earning potential. In addition, continuity creates the stable conditions children need for their healthy development and school-readiness. Research shows that children's educational and developmental outcomes improve when they have continuity in their child care arrangements. Frequent changes in child care arrangements are associated with higher levels of stress and negative behavior in young children (Dicker, S., and Gordon, E., Zero to Three, 2004).

Optional: Include 2 sentences about why your organization cares.

AB 2150 is an extraordinary opportunity to remove unjust and unjustified, red-tape reporting rules that cause eligible families to churn in and out of child care programs; put their jobs at risk; disrupt children's school readiness and development; force them to turn down job promotions, make it impossible for child care providers to balance ledgers or plan for quality investments while accepting subsidized children; and burden employers and education providers who are required to sign off on endless paperwork. For these reasons, **[Name of Your Organization]** supports this legislation and requests your "Aye" vote.

Sincerely,

Your Name and Title

cc: Office of Assemblymember Santiago
Office of Assemblymember Weber

Mary Ignatius, Parent Voices (Co-Sponsor)

Laurie Furstenfeld, Child Care Law Center (Co-Sponsor)