

Sample Agency Opposition Letter – Please put on agency letterhead
Send by Fax to Senator Liu (916) 324-7543
Please also email a copy to CAPPA at cappa@cappaonline.com

March 27, 2012

The Honorable Carol Liu, Chair
Senate Budget Subcommittee 1 on Education
State Capitol, Room 5061
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Governor's Child Care and Development Proposals

Dear Chairwoman Liu,

As the [title] of [Name of your organization] I am writing to you today to voice opposition to the Governor's Proposed FY 2012-13 Budget for Child Care and Development, including the realignment of CalWORKs Stage 2, 3, Alternative Payment and General Child Care to the County Welfare Departments under the administration of Department of Social Services.

Since 2008, California's Child Care and Development system has endured multiple years of devastating cuts, a loss of over \$883 million dollars and the elimination of over 107,262 child care slots. In [Name of Agency] service area which covers [name of cities, county] we lost [number of lost slots] slots alone this past year and over [number] of providers and [number] child development centers in our service area.

Research has proven that for every \$1 spent on child care, \$3 goes back into our economy. Our agency alone has suffered a loss in funding of [number] which equates to a loss to our local community of [funding loss x 3]. After working with the low-income working families in our community for over [number] years, we know that the key to their employment success is stable access to quality subsidized child care and development programs and services. This state cannot continue to grow its economy and fully exit from this recession without quality child care. Eliminating an additional 62,000 slots on top of the already 107,262 lost slots will not help us to achieve our economic goals.

[Name of Agency] is also opposed to the Governor's proposal to realign the child care and development system to the county welfare departments. [Name of Agency] currently administers [name the programs]. [*optional: and partners with the county of [name of county] to administer CalWORKs Stage 1 child care]. It is hard to understand why the State would move the entire child care and development system over to an entity that currently only operates [number of programs county operates] out of the 5 core child care and development programs in [county name] county instead of recognizing local agencies like [name of agency] that has been doing this good work for over [number of years]. The Governor's proposal is ill-conceived, shows no real understanding of how the current system operates, will cost more money and can't even meet the goal – work participation rates- which he claims to be his sole driving force. The Governors system will short-change our children, contribute to the local and State unemployment rates and create mass chaos for the low-income families, children and child care providers that we currently serve.

I respectfully ask that you oppose this proposal, as your assembly colleagues did last month, on Thursday, April 12th at the Subcommittee 1 budget hearing. I look forward to working with you and your staff on a better solution for child care and development programs.

Warm regards,

Name of Executive, Name of Agency