

State Should Maintain Funding Commitment to Child Development and Education

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SACRAMENTO, Calif., April 8 – Catherine Atkin, president of Preschool California, issues the following statement as the Assembly budget committee considers the governor’s proposed cuts to early education services at an April 8 subcommittee hearing. The proposal would cut \$198 million in preschool and child care funding, meaning the loss of more than 18,000 spaces for low-income, working families.

“At a time when there are long waiting lists for early education and preschool programs, and concerns over our state’s achievement gap, California should be expanding access to child care and preschool programs – not moving in the opposite direction.

Even with the state’s challenging budget outlook, we must remember that educating our young children is an investment in our state’s future.”

Preschool California is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to increase access to high-quality preschool for all of California’s children, starting with those who need it most.