

## Summary of Preschool Legislation

There are a number of preschool-related bills in the state Legislature. The following are summaries of a small number of these bills. For a more complete list, visit <http://www.preschoolcalifornia.org/preschool-momentum/preschool-legislation.html>.

### **SB 1629 (STEINBERG) – THE EARLY LEARNING QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACT**

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SB 1629 would establish a Commission to create a state Early Learning Quality Improvement System. This includes a rating scale to help parents make decisions about programs for their children, and a graduated funding model to help existing and future preschool and child development programs reach and maintain higher levels of quality. The Commission will conduct an assessment and analysis of the existing early care and education infrastructure, including strategies to provide that the existing workforce, which reflects the cultural and linguistic diversity of California, has the opportunity to meet higher levels of education qualifications.

### **AB 2759 (JONES) – CALIFORNIA STATE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM ACT OF 2008**

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AB 2759 would consolidate and change the state's existing five child development programs for preschool-aged children: State Preschool, Full-Day State Preschool, Prekindergarten and Family Literacy, Prekindergarten and Family Literacy Full-Day, and General Child Care and Development Programs to create the California State Preschool Program. This bill would consolidate the administration of programs providing services to three- and four-year-olds; combine statutory and regulatory requirements for the programs; and provide that children receive either part-day or full-day child development services based on the needs of the family.

### **SB 1298 (SIMITIAN/STEINBERG) – EDUCATION DATA SYSTEM: GOVERNANCE AND CRITICAL LINKAGES**

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SB 1298 would establish a data commission to develop a statewide education information system. The data system would support program evaluation to help identify which programs are effective at improving different measures of student performance, including graduation rates. It would also provide connections between K-12 and other systems—such as preschool, higher education, workforce, juvenile justice, and foster care—to promote information sharing and evaluation as students move across systems.

### **PRESCHOOL FACILITIES BOND**

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A broad coalition of early education, preschool and K-12 groups is continuing to advocate for a separate funding mechanism for targeted early care and education facilities in the highest-need neighborhoods, including those served by schools with low Academic Performance Index scores and in which child poverty rates are highest.