

Gov. Brown's most recent budget proposal includes a change to the kindergarten entry date and could deny up to 125,000 children the right to kindergarten. Under this proposal, the Administration would allow districts who choose to offer TK to collect full Average Daily Attendance funding for those children who are no longer eligible for kindergarten.

However, the proposal still denies those children the right to kindergarten, which they had before. In districts that choose not to offer TK, children may be displaced and denied their right to public education.

This is inherently unequal, because children in one school district may have access to transitional kindergarten, while identically situated kids just one district over may not. If low-income children are denied TK, this will create a serious inequity and would widen the achievement gap.

Cutting kindergarten is a **lose-lose-lose** for California's children, parents, teachers and schools.

Children Lose

- Up to 125,000 of our youngest school children will be denied the right to kindergarten
- This is the largest number of kids ever denied the right to public school in the nation's history.
- Research shows that children will be more likely to fall behind, widening the achievement gap.
- Without school readiness programs like transitional kindergarten, children are more likely to be placed in special education, retained in later grades and drop out of high school.
- This is especially devastating for low-income kids and English learners.
 - Of the 125,000 children, 62 percent are from low-income schools and 40 percent are English learners.

Parents Lose

- With up to 125,000 children denied the right to public education, parents may be forced to quit their jobs because they are faced with the dilemma of finding childcare for their children who would no longer go to school in the fall.
- This plan would be particularly hard for low-income families, who cannot afford private childcare or preschool.
- Publicly funded preschool programs have already been severely slashed in recent years and have huge waiting lists.

Teachers and Schools Lose

- Up to 5,000 teachers could permanently lose their jobs.
- Schools could permanently lose up to \$1 billion in funding, including \$100 million of special education funding.
- They will be forced to tell families to fend for themselves.