

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, high-quality child care programs facilitate the healthy development of young children, reduce poverty by increasing workforce participation and family stability, and stimulate the economy; and

WHEREAS, a historic lack of public investment in child care has resulted in unaffordable costs and insufficient availability, especially in low-income areas; and

WHEREAS, in Los Angeles, there are only enough licensed child care slots to serve 4 percent of the City's infant and toddler population and almost 60 percent of families live in child care deserts, where there are three times the number of children as licensed slots; and

WHEREAS, child care providers are struggling to keep their programs open due to staffing shortages, rising operational costs, and poverty-level wages; and

WHEREAS, outdated child care subsidy reimbursement rates from the State have not kept up with the actual operating costs of child care; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Child Care Providers United, a California child care provider union, entered into a contract with the State to develop an alternative methodology for determining the subsidy reimbursement rates for child care providers; and

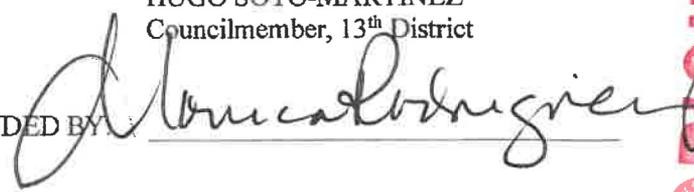
WHEREAS, the State agreed to a new methodology, but risks delaying any changes to the State's child care reimbursement rates until 2027 if it does not include the alternative methodology in the Child Care Development Fund plan to the Federal Administration for Children and Families by July 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, there is concern among unions and early care and education advocates that the Governor's administration and State legislature may deprioritize child care reimbursement rate reform and implementation amid competing priorities during a budget deficit; and

WHEREAS, if the State does not fully fund or implement the new methodology, child care staff will continue to exit the field and programs will continue to close, further destabilizing child care infrastructure in and beyond Los Angeles;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-24 State Legislative Program, sponsorship and support of any legislative and/or administrative action that would ensure the development, funding, and implementation of the alternative methodology to update child care subsidy reimbursement rates in California.

PRESENTED BY:   
HUGO SOTO-MARTINEZ  
Councilmember, 13<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

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