

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 26, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 18, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 8, 2009

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 44

Introduced by Senator Corbett

May 6, 2009

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 44—Relative to child care.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 44, as amended, Corbett. Child care.

~~This measure would request the State Department of Education to hold an open meeting to review California's current regional market rate methodology and implementation guidelines for subsidized child care, and question whether adherence to the current regional market rate system has resulted in sufficient access for working poor families. The measure would also request that the department hold an open meeting where all vested stakeholders are fully versed in the methodology used for the regional market rate survey. The measure would also request that the department~~ *Legislature to hold one or more joint legislative hearings and requests the State Department of Education to participate in the hearing or hearings, on or before April 1, 2010, hold an open meeting relating to the department's review of California's current regional market rate methodology and implementation guidelines, and any recommended changes to the current methodology to review California's current regional market rate methodology and implementation guidelines for subsidized child care. The bill would also request that all vested stakeholders be included in*

the planning and implementation process being undertaken by the department to establish new rates or a new rate structure.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, In 1990, the federal government began a major
2 investment in child care with the passage of the Child Care and
3 Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 9858 et
4 seq.); and

5 WHEREAS, In 1996 CCDBG was expanded as part of federal
6 welfare reform legislation called the Personal Responsibility and
7 Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PROWORA). At that time,
8 the child care funding component became known as the Child Care
9 and Development Fund (CCDF); and

10 WHEREAS, A vital cornerstone of CCDF funding is parental
11 choice. Allowing families the ability to choose a child care
12 environment that best meets the needs of the child and the family
13 is an integral part of keeping children learning while parents are
14 earning; and

15 WHEREAS, The intent of both the federal and state child care
16 subsidy programs is to ensure that families have equal access to
17 child care providers who provide child care to nonsubsidized
18 families; and

19 WHEREAS, The subsidized child care reimbursement system
20 should be based on the current regional market rates of child care
21 providers who provide care to private nonsubsidized families; and

22 WHEREAS, California's child care provider reimbursement
23 rate should be updated no less than every two years in accordance
24 with requirements of the United States Department of Health and
25 Human Services and be included as part of California's State Plan;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, The methodology for the California regional market
28 rate survey was last approved in 2005. The methodology approved
29 takes into account 12 different variables including median home
30 values, median gross rent, median real estate taxes, and median
31 household income; and

32 WHEREAS, The California economy has changed dramatically
33 since the methodology for the regional market rate was approved
34 and these changes may have an adverse impact on the upcoming
35 regional market rate survey; and

1 WHEREAS, By the time California conducts and implements
2 the market rate survey, often it is already out-of-date; and

3 WHEREAS, Families are disadvantaged with outdated rates
4 that limit the access to providers who are willing and able to
5 provide quality child care to subsidized children; and

6 WHEREAS, The regulations that govern the implementation
7 of the California regional market rate ceilings can be
8 administratively burdensome and are in need of a more simplified
9 process; and

10 WHEREAS, The regional market rate development process has
11 become inadequate in providing a reasonable rate that affords
12 families access to high quality child care programs and does not
13 always represent the true cost of care; now, therefore, be it

14 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
15 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature intends to hold one or*
16 *more joint legislative hearings and requests the State Department*
17 *of Education to ~~hold an open meeting~~ also participate in the joint*
18 *legislative hearing or hearings to review California's current*
19 *regional market rate methodology and implementation guidelines,*
20 *and question whether adherence to the current regional market rate*
21 *system has resulted in sufficient access for working poor families,*
22 *and execute any recommended changes to the current methodology;*
23 *and be it further*

24 ~~*Resolved, That the Legislature requests that the State Department*~~
25 ~~*of Education hold an open meeting where all vested stakeholders*~~
26 ~~*are fully versed in the methodology used for the regional market*~~
27 ~~*rate survey; and be it further*~~

28 ~~*Resolved, That the Legislature requests that the State Department*~~
29 ~~*of Education, on or before April 1, 2010, hold an open meeting*~~
30 ~~*relating to the department's review of California's current regional*~~
31 ~~*market rate methodology and implementation guidelines, and any*~~
32 ~~*recommended changes to the current methodology; and be it further*~~

33 *RESOLVED, That the Legislature requests that all vested*
34 *stakeholders be included in the planning and implementation*
35 *process being undertaken by the State Department of Education*
36 *to establish new rates or a new rate structure; and be it further*

37 *RESOLVED, That the discussion items include, but not be*
38 *limited to, the regional market rate history, current methodology,*
39 *federal and state requirements, and the regulations and*

1 *implementation guidelines used to implement the regional market*
2 *rate; and be it further*
3 *RESOLVED, That the joint legislative hearing or hearings take*
4 *place on or before April 1, 2010, so that any recommended changes*
5 *to the current regional market rate methodology can be considered*
6 *in budget negotiations; and be it further*
7 *Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of*
8 *this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.*

O