

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 273**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Rendon**

February 7, 2013

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An act to add Section 8242 to the Education Code, relating to child care and development services, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 273, as amended, Rendon. Child care and development services: *California Partnership for Infants and Toddlers Act of 2013.*

The Child Care and Development Services Act, administered by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, establishes a system of child care and development services for children from infancy to 13 years of age and their parents, including a full range of supervision, health, and support services through full- and part-time programs. Existing law requires the Superintendent to administer general child care and development programs, as specified.

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would redesign general child care and development programs for infants and toddlers to allow for the combination of child care and development services with home visitation services and that would rename these programs the California Early Head Start Program.~~ *enact the California Partnership for Infants and Toddlers Act of 2013, and would require the Superintendent, by March 1, 2014, to apply to the California Children and Families Commission for funding from the funds received by the commission from the federal Quality Early Learning for Our Youngest Children program. The bill would appropriate these funds to the Superintendent, who would be required*

*to expend those moneys by making supplemental grants available to qualifying general child care and development infant and toddler contracting agencies. The Superintendent, in consultation from the California Children and Families Commission, would be required to determine the agencies that qualify for funding and establish standards to ensure quality.*

*The bill would require the Superintendent, by January 1, 2018, to submit a report to the Legislature evaluating the act.*

*Vote: majority. Appropriation: ~~no~~-yes. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.*

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     *SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the*  
2     *following:*

3     *(a) The first three years of life are a period of dynamic and*  
4     *unparalleled brain development in which children acquire the*  
5     *ability to think, speak, learn, and reason. During these first 36*  
6     *months, children need good health, strong families, and positive*  
7     *early learning experiences to lay the foundation for later school*  
8     *success. Low-income infants and toddlers are at greater risk for*  
9     *a variety of poorer outcomes and vulnerabilities, such as later*  
10    *school failure, learning disabilities, behavior problems,*  
11    *developmental delay, and health impairments.*

12    *(b) Existing state law requires the Superintendent of Public*  
13    *Instruction to administer child care and development programs,*  
14    *including the General Child Care and Development program that*  
15    *provides services to eligible low-income children from birth to 12*  
16    *years of age. For children from birth to three years old, the*  
17    *General Child Care and Development program funds centers and*  
18    *family child care home networks to provide full-day, full-year child*  
19    *care and development services that meet the State Department of*  
20    *Education's California Infant/Toddler Learning and Development*  
21    *Foundations.*

22    *(c) The federal Early Head Start program serves low-income*  
23    *infants and toddlers with a flexible program model intended to*  
24    *meet the varied needs of families, including child care and*  
25    *development services, home visitation services, health services,*  
26    *and family engagement. Research shows that children who*  
27    *participated in Early Head Start had significantly larger*

1 *vocabularies and scored higher on standardized measures of*  
2 *cognitive development, that children and parents had more positive*  
3 *interactions, and parents provided more support for learning.*  
4 *Many different home visitation programs have been shown to*  
5 *significantly reduce the occurrence of child maltreatment and*  
6 *abuse, and improve children's health and school success.*

7 *(d) President Barack Obama, in his 2013 State of the Union*  
8 *address, announced a major new initiative to increase federal*  
9 *funding for early childhood education. This initiative includes a*  
10 *competitive federal grant for states and local communities to*  
11 *establish partnerships between Early Head Start and quality child*  
12 *care.*

13 *(e) To improve the healthy development and school readiness*  
14 *of California's most vulnerable children and to increase*  
15 *California's competitiveness for federal funding, it is the intent of*  
16 *the Legislature to enact legislation to establish the California*  
17 *Partnership for Infants and Toddlers supplemental grant. The*  
18 *Partnership for Infants and Toddlers supplemental grant will*  
19 *provide voluntary funding for the contracting agencies of the*  
20 *General Child Care and Development program who serve infants*  
21 *and toddlers.*

22 *(f) The funds authorized by this act will be used to offer enrolled*  
23 *children and families with support services, including, but not*  
24 *limited to, health and nutrition, home visitation, early childhood*  
25 *mental health, family engagement, and supplemental early learning*  
26 *services.*

27 *(g) This act will provide local contractors with flexibility to*  
28 *tailor which support services to offer based on the unique needs*  
29 *of their community, families, and children.*

30 *(h) By having the Superintendent of Public Instruction*  
31 *administer the grant, administrative and reporting requirements*  
32 *by contracting agencies will be both minimized and simplified.*

33 *SEC. 2. Section 8242 is added to the Education Code, to read:*  
34 *8242. (a) This section shall be known, and may be cited, as*  
35 *the California Partnership for Infants and Toddlers Act of 2013.*

36 *(b) On or before March 1, 2014, the Superintendent shall apply*  
37 *to the California Children and Families Commission from the*  
38 *funding received by the commission from the federal Quality Early*  
39 *Learning for Our Youngest Children program, as authorized*  
40 *pursuant to Section 9840a of Title 42 of the United States Code,*

1 to provide funds to eligible agencies for purposes of the California  
2 Partnership for Infants and Toddlers Act of 2013. The  
3 Superintendent shall apply for funding that would implement the  
4 grant program authorized by this section for a period of not less  
5 than three years.

6 (c) The funds received by the Superintendent pursuant to  
7 subdivision (b) are hereby appropriated to the Superintendent,  
8 who shall expend those moneys by making supplemental grants  
9 available to qualifying general child care and development infant  
10 and toddler contracting agencies, as determined by the  
11 Superintendent, at an amount of not less than two thousand five  
12 hundred dollars (\$2,500) per child.

13 (d) The Superintendent, in consultation from the California  
14 Children and Families Commission, shall determine which general  
15 child care and development infant and toddler contracting agencies  
16 qualify for funding pursuant to this section, and shall establish  
17 standards to ensure quality, based on the federal Early Head Start  
18 program model, and other evidence based services provided to  
19 infants and toddlers.

20 (e) (1) Notwithstanding Section 10231.5 of the Government  
21 Code, on or before January 1, 2018, the Superintendent shall  
22 submit a report to the Legislature evaluating the effectiveness of  
23 the supplemental grants provided by the California Partnership  
24 for Infants and Toddlers Act of 2013 with regard to supporting  
25 the healthy development and school readiness of children.

26 (2) A report to be submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall  
27 be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government  
28 Code.

29 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~  
30 ~~legislation that would redesign the general child care and~~  
31 ~~development programs for infants and toddlers to allow for the~~  
32 ~~combination of child care and development services with home~~  
33 ~~visitation services. It is further the intent of the Legislature to enact~~  
34 ~~legislation that would rename the redesigned program the~~  
35 ~~California Early Head Start Program.~~