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THE NEWSLETTER *On The Capitol Doorstep* is an independent monthly publication on public policy issues pertaining to young children established in 1971.

Regular Features

- Front page coverage of the latest political developments affecting young children.
- Descriptions of legislation on early care and education, child protection and child abuse prevention, child safety, education, child health and mental health, nutrition, public assistance and foster care.
- Comprehensive report on all tracked bills, published in June and October.
- Analysis of the state budget for children's programs, as proposed and adopted.
- Voting record on key children's bills.
- Analysis of major new programs and laws affecting children.

Special Reports Past issues have featured a description of the Trustline registration process, a discussion of the value of play, updates on federal legislation and budget activities, reviews of recent reports on early care and education, state reports, and other early care and education issues.

Complimentary Inserts Periodic inclusion of material on legislative advocacy for children, legislative rosters and calendars, overview of early care and education program types, history of early care legislation, and others.

THE UPDATE The ***Legislative Update on Child Development*** is a weekly bill monitoring service on early care and education legislation, published from April to October while the legislature is in session.

Bill Monitoring Service Every bill pertaining to early care and education is listed in the *Update*. Each bill includes a description of its major provisions, any new amendments, the date it was last amended, its current status (including any hearing dates), the name and the phone number of the sponsoring organization (if any), and the name and phone number of the consultant. Bill information is updated at the close of each week and mailed first class to subscribers. The final issue provides a complete report on all child care bills, including the chapter numbers of new laws and the governor's veto messages.

News briefs Announcements of legislative deadlines, special hearings, budget proceedings, and other child care-related actions and events appear at the beginning of each *Update*.

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Child Care Staffing Ratios and Qualifications: Current Requirements and History Compares staffing requirements for state-contracted child development programs (Title 5 regulations) and private child care centers (Title 22 regulations). Includes the historical development of current requirements. 6 pages

A History of Major Legislation Affecting Child Care and Preschool Funding Describes major federal and state legislation affecting child care and preschool programs from the early 1900s to present. Includes bill and chapter numbers. 8 pages

Advocacy . . . Why Bother? Explains how an idea becomes law and how anyone can act as a child advocate. Includes an in-depth description of the California legislative process, action steps for citizen participation, guidelines for communicating with legislators, and a list of legislative advocacy resources. (Includes Legislative Calendar/Anatomy of a Bill). 8 pages

California State Budget Process Describes how the annual state budget is determined and how it impacts funding for children's programs. 2 pages

A Guide to State Agencies Serving Children Provides a directory to state agencies serving children. Includes agency head, address, and phone number. 2 pages

Legislative Calendar / Anatomy of a Bill Lists the current-year deadlines for moving bills through the legislative process. The flip side describes how to read and interpret a legislative bill. (Included in Advocacy...Why Bother?) 2 pages

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