

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill 60 (Santiago and Gonzalez Fletcher) - The Child
2 Care Protections for Working Families Act]

3 **Resolution supporting Assembly Bill 60, authored by State Assembly Members Miguel**
4 **Santiago and Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, which updates income eligibility guidelines**
5 **and income thresholds for parents accessing state child care assistance, guarantees**
6 **child care eligibility for 12-months, and eliminates outdated reporting requirements.**

7

8 WHEREAS, Stable child care provides parents the ability to work, pursue improved
9 employment opportunities and increase their wages; and

10 WHEREAS, The State of California uses outdated income eligibility guidelines derived
11 over a decade ago which limit families earning more than 70% of the State Median Income
12 (SMI) from receiving child care subsidies; and

13 WHEREAS, These outdated income guidelines do not reflect a realistic picture of
14 affordability and many families that cannot afford child care still do not qualify for subsidized
15 child care; and

16 WHEREAS, California does not have a statewide policy for families to phase out of
17 child care which would allow for moderate wage growth without sudden changes to child care
18 that they rely on to provide financial stability; and

19 WHEREAS, Minimum wage increases statewide are still not enough to help parents
20 afford childcare, but yet these increased wages may disqualify parents from subsidized child
21 care with little time to react; and

22 WHEREAS, This can change a family's situation quickly because Title V of the
23 California Code of Regulations requires families to report any changes in family income,
24 family size, or activities requiring child care within 5 days of the change; and

25

1 WHEREAS, Parents who are enrolled in school must also report changes in schedule
2 within 5 days; and

3 WHEREAS, Parents with variable schedules have burdensome reporting requirements
4 and must submit pay stubs, employer statements, and time records every four months – and
5 the fear that they will lose subsidized child care may prevent them from taking on additional
6 hours which could provide much needed funds for their family; and

7 WHEREAS, Due to these outdated and bureaucratic requirements, parents are forced
8 to choose between promotions, pursuing a degree, or increasing their work hours and the
9 child care that is needed to allow them to provide for their family; and

10 WHEREAS, Failure to report can also cause a family to lose their subsidized child care;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, According to California Code of Regulations Title V, families are not able
13 to receive child care assistance for more than 12-months without redetermination of eligibility,
14 but there are no safeguards in place to protect families from repeated reporting or termination
15 prior to 12-months; and

16 WHEREAS, Family advocates, child care administrators, and parents agree that the
17 state’s current reporting rules harm families; and

18 WHEREAS, Creating stability for families who need child care in order to provide for
19 their families will create better outcomes for children and their families; and

20 WHEREAS, The federal Child Care Development Block Grant Act of 2014 (CCDBG)
21 requires states to implement policies that support stability in child care; and

22 WHEREAS, These policies include a 12-month eligibility redetermination period
23 regardless of changes in income, as long as income does not exceed the federal threshold
24 of 85% of SMI; eligibility redetermination that does not disrupt parental employment; and

25

1 graduated phase-out of assistance for families whose income has increased at the time of
2 redetermination but does not exceed SMI; and

3 WHEREAS, California is currently not in compliance with the updated CCDBG and
4 continues to put unnecessary strain on families due to burdensome reporting requirements
5 and potential child care instability; and

6 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 60, authored by State Assembly Members Miguel Santiago
7 and Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, will bring the state into compliance with the CCDBG and
8 proposes policies that will promote stable child care and improve outcomes for children while
9 reducing impractical reporting requirements that burden families; and

10 WHEREAS, These policies include updating the SMI income threshold for entering
11 families to 70% of the SMI; updating the income threshold at which families exit to 85% of the
12 SMI and creating a graduated phase out for tapered assistance if a family's income has
13 increased at the time of re-determination; guaranteeing 12-months of child care eligibility
14 when a subsidy is given; and removing the required interim reporting during the 12-month
15 period unless a family exceeds 85% SMI or initial certification was while the family sought
16 employment which requires reporting at 6 months; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco strongly supports Assembly
18 Bill 60 The Child Care Protections for Working Families Act which brings California into
19 compliance with the federal Child Care Development Block Grant Act of 2014 and removes
20 burdensome policies, creates a pathway out of poverty for working families, reduces stress
21 and burdensome paperwork requirements, and creates continuity of care and stability for
22 healthy development and school-readiness; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco is unwavering in its
24 support for policies that allow income stability and a strong educational foundation for children
25 to grow, learn and thrive.