Next Steps for California

Beth Meloy

Senior Researcher and Policy Analyst, Learning Policy Institute

www.learningpolicyinstitute.org
@LPI_Learning
Designate a single coordinating body to unify and streamline ECE decision making at the state and local level.

Develop a one-stop-shop for parents to find high quality care.

Build a comprehensive data system that offers policymakers and administrators actionable information.

Source: 2012 National Survey of Early Care and Education, reported in Worthy Work, Still Unlivable Wages
• Establish **universally-available** preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds, utilizing a **mixed delivery system** and a **sliding fee scale**.

• Expand access to subsidized child care on a **sliding fee scale** for infants and toddlers.
3 Build a well-qualified ECE workforce

• Reform the reimbursement rate system and supplement reimbursement rates to *enhance educator wages*.

• **Raise expectations** for teacher qualifications and support existing educators in meeting new requirements.

• **Invest in higher education programs** that adequately prepare early educators for the demands of the classroom.
4 Improve the quality of all ECE programs

- **Raise quality requirements** for programs with the lowest standards.

- Fully fund Quality Rating Improvement Systems to **support required participation** of all state subsidized providers.

- Ensure all programs have access to **quality improvement activities**.
Develop leaders who understand **effective teaching practices for young children**, including dual language learners.

Ensure educators **understand child development** and early language development.

Provide **joint professional development** for educators and leaders across ECE and elementary school.