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March 27, 2019

The Honorable Eloise Gómez Reyes
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2175
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 194 (Reyes) - Support

Dear Assemblymember Reyes,

On behalf of the California Women's Law Center (CWLC), we write in support of AB 194, which will improve access to affordable child care for low-income families.

Currently, there is a severe shortage of affordable child care in California. Recent data shows that 1.8 million children are eligible for state-subsidized child care but do not receive it due to a lack of access. The shortage is most acute for children ages zero to three, with less than 14% of infants and toddlers who qualify for subsidized care actually receiving services. Not being able to access child care disproportionately hurts families of color and single mothers.

There is a critical need to increase the availability of subsidized child care in California. AB 194 will create thousands of affordable child care spaces, providing necessary support to our state's working families. These child care availabilities will positively impact both the child's development and the family's economic success. AB 194 will help address inter-generational cycles of poverty by supporting working parents and creating opportunities for families.

CWLC's mission is to break down barriers and advance the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy and education. AB 194 will expand access to affordable child care for the most vulnerable among us, supporting families and building a stronger California.

For these reasons, the California Women's Law Center supports AB 194.

Sincerely,



Betsy Butler
Executive Director