County Supervisors Association of California

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March 26, 1991

TO: County Supervisors, Administrative Officers, Personnel Directors, Child Care Coordinators

FROM: Steve Keil, Legislative Representative Steve Keil

Subject: Local Child Care and Development Planning and Federal Child Care Block Grant Funds

I am writing to you concerning some exciting developments in the child care area and to ask for your help in meeting some guidelines which could make your county eligible for federal funds. First, I will outline what's happening in Sacramento in the legislative arena and then tell you about federal grants which have been earmarked for California.

LOCAL CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING:

In 1990, CSAC sponsored AB 1853, by Assembly Member Jackie Speier, which was approved by the California State Legislature but was vetoed by Governor Deukmejian. In summary, the bill would have created the California Child Care Partnership Council to develop a comprehensive state-local child care system using public and private collaboration at the local level. AB 1853 would have requested each Board of Supervisors to complete one of several specified options to establish a local child care planning body and to prepare a countywide, community-based child care plan for report to the Council. The bill would have encouraged local plans to meet prescribed requirements in developing community-based child care plans. It also declared its intention to provide funding for the provisions of the bill in its future budget act.

Assembly Member Jackie Speier recently introduced AB 2141, a bill substantially similar to AB 1853. The new bill contains technical changes from the language in AB 1853 and two substantive changes. First, there will be a requirement for County Boards of Supervisors and County Boards of Education to cooperate in the appointment of the local child care planning body. Second, county planning councils will be given the opportunity to establish priorities for the distribution of new federal child care funds within their counties. Attached is the current version of the bill. Amendments are expected by mid April.

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Federal Child Care Block Grant Funds
March 26, 1991

Due to the (quick) requirements to obtain the federal funding by September 1, when funds will be released, much of AB 2141 will be administratively implemented before it is signed into law. (This will be done to permit local child care plans to benefit from funds available through the federal child care legislation which was passed as part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 in the closing days of the last Congress.)

FEDERAL FUNDS:

The 1990 federal child care package established two new grant programs: (1) A Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) to help pay for child care expenses for low-income families and to improve the quality of child care services; and (2) a child care entitlement program for working poor families under Title IV of the Social Security Act JOBS Program. Total funds available for California for Fiscal Year 1991-92 are approximately $110,000,000. The majority of these, probably 70-80%, will be available for planning by local child care planning bodies. Funds will be allocated to counties based upon a formula developed in 1980 by the Legislature and the State Department of Education. The formula takes into account population, AFDC population, and the degree to which state and federal funds are currently meeting the needs of low-income children. Draft regulations for the CCDBG have not yet been written.

Attached is a summary of major elements of the Federal Child Care grants copied from an analysis prepared by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

NOTE: TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE! CSAC recommends that you immediately appoint a liaison to meet with a counterpart from the County Board of Education to bring back an action plan expeditiously to both boards for the appointment of a local planning body. Even though many important administrative matters remain unresolved, planning bodies must be established, and plans must be submitted to the State Council by July 29, 1991. Failure to meet this deadline will result in available funds allocated based upon plans developed by the State Department of Education, which is the lead state agency.

We will provide you with additional information as it becomes available. Once sufficient information becomes available, CSAC will sponsor a seminar to provide assistance to local planners in complying with AB 2141, and in planning for Federal Child Care funds.

Attachment

ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHILD CARE COUNCIL
(Discussion Document for 4-25-91 Planning Meeting)

Background:

On April 23, 1991 the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Return to the Board on May 21, 1991 with a plan for the Board's consideration to establish a Regional Child Care and Development Planning Council.
2. Consult with the San Diego County Office of Education, Commission on Children and Youth's Child Care Development Committee, and County Supervisors Association of California's Child Care Subcommittee in developing a plan to establish a Regional Child Care and Development Planning Council.
3. Return to the Board on May 21, 1991 with an analysis of AB 2141 (Speir).

Timetable:

In order to meet the May 21, 1991 timetable the following schedule of events is recommended:

- 4/25 Initial strategy development meeting in prep for response to Board
- 4/26-5/2 Full development of draft response. Develop consensus "in-house". Incorporate preliminary views of "consultants" as feasible within the document.
- 5/3 Distribute draft response to "consultants" for input/concurrence.
- 5/6-5/8 Meetings as necessary with "consultants"
- 5/8 Final draft.
- 5/9 CAO review.
- 5/13 Docket final letter
- 5/14 Distribute letter to "consultants", significant others.
- 5/15-5/17 Final orchestration for Tuesday Board meeting.
- 5/17 Briefing with Board Aides
- 5/21 Report to Board

Directives:

1. Return to the Board on May 21, 1991 with a plan for the Board's consideration to establish a Regional Child Care and Development Planning Council.

   - Determine the Council structure, delineate its parameters, etc.

   - Options:
     a) Establish new body (using AB 2141 as guide to membership)
     b) Modify Commission on Children And Youth Child

Care Committee

c) Create council linking to Children's Services Director's Group

d) Create council linking to Joint County/Schools Collaborative

e) Other...

- Include recommendation on who should be the State lead agency--one or two--Department of Education, Department of Social Services, Department of Child and Educational Development...???

2. Consult with the San Diego County Office of Education, Commission on Children and Youth's Child Care Development Committee, and County Supervisors Association of California's Child Care Subcommittee in developing a plan to establish a Regional Child Care and Development Planning Council.

   - Identify contacts with respect to each group and determine process for consultation.

3. Return to the Board on May 21, 1991 with an analysis of AB 2141 (Speir).

   - Identify who will take the lead on preparing the AB 2141 analysis and determine the process for review/consensus (OIA/DSS/CAO/Office of Education?).

POSSIBLE COUNCIL COMPOSITION
(Draft 4-25-91)

AB 2141 RECOMMENDATION:

1) County and City Government Officials or Elected Officials
   - Chief Administrative Officer (Joint Chair)
   - Department of Social Services (GAIN, Transitional Child Care, Child Protective Services) ???
   - ~~Juvenile Court (Judicial Offices)~~ ?? cog

2) County Office of Education
   - County Superintendent (Joint Chair)
   - Additional Office Appointments ~~(3)~~ 1-2 ??

3) School Districts and Community Colleges (3)
   - San Diego Unified
   - Regional Representation (2)

4) Local State Funded Child Care Resource and Referral
   - Child Care Resource Service

5) Local Government Child Coordinator
   - Child Care Coordinators: County of San Diego, City of San Diego, San Marcos
     Regional Representation: North County, East County, South County (Chula Vista), Coastal (Carlsbad)

6) Child Care and Head Start Providers and Child Development Experts
   [11 maximum, to be identified]

7) Parents who use child care services
   [5 maximum to be identified. (PTA)]

8) Employers, ~~labor organizations,~~ and community organizations
   - San Diego Child Care Coalition, ~~Labor Federation~~ (3)

Total membership--40

council.lis (4-25-91)