

First 5: Champions for Children 2018 POLICY AGENDA



First 5 builds the early childhood systems and supports needed to ensure California's young children are healthy, safe, and ready to succeed in school. This is accomplished by:

RESILIENT FAMILIES



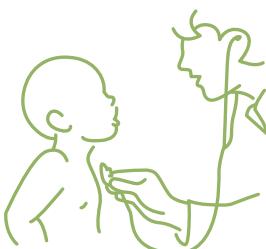
VISION:

Promote parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of crisis, and knowledge of parenting and child development.

POLICY GOALS:

- Expand access to evidence-based family strengthening programs, including home visiting and parent education, to optimize child development and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect.
- Strengthen the social safety net to build family resiliency and promote self-sufficiency.
- Support community hubs for integrated services and crisis supports for children and families.
- Support parent engagement on child brain development, including Talk. Read. Sing.

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT



VISION:

Build a family-centered health system that prioritizes prevention.

POLICY GOALS:

- Increase coordination across systems of care to connect young children to screening and early intervention, including through the expansion of **Help Me Grow**.
- Increase use of essential Medi-Cal services, especially dental, mental health, and vision services.
- Ensure all pregnant mothers and children ages 0-5 have affordable and comprehensive health insurance.
- Expand availability and geographic spread of health care providers and professionals.

QUALITY EARLY LEARNING



VISION:

Ensure children are healthy and have the social-emotional and cognitive skills to enter kindergarten ready to learn.

POLICY GOALS:

- Increase supply of high-quality early learning programs for children 0-5.
- Embed high-quality standards in all state-funded early learning programs and support state and local efforts to meet them.
- Promote affordability of early learning programs, while ensuring fair workforce compensation.

SUSTAINABILITY AND SCALE



VISION:

Fulfill the voter-approved Proposition 10 mandate: *"To create a comprehensive and integrated delivery system of information and services to promote early childhood development."*

POLICY GOAL:

- Explore and advance alternative revenue sources for children's services.
- Improve and integrate county data systems to track and evaluate children's outcomes.
- Regulate tobacco products.
- Mitigate public health risks that widely affect children's health and wellbeing.