



NEWS – OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
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7TH DISTRICT

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PADILLA OPPOSES CUTS IN CHILDCARE PROGRAMS

LOS ANGELES – City Council President Alex Padilla today introduced a motion opposing cuts in child development and child care programs that have been proposed in the Governor’s 2003-04 budget.

“This budget proposal may result in the loss of quality child care for 42,000 young children in the City of Los Angeles,” said Padilla. “Fiscal responsibility need not be achieved by balancing our State budget on the backs of our children.”

The Governor’s budget proposal recommends a “realignment” of child development funding by redirecting the funding from the California Department of Education to individual counties throughout California. Under the proposal, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) would not be guaranteed the receipt of their current level of child development funding, and there would be a competitive bidding process for the funds that previously went directly LAUSD for child development programs.

The LAUSD currently provides certified child care providers at each childcare center throughout the district. Under the Governor’s proposal, monies directed to childcare would not have to go to certified childcare providers.

Padilla’s motion will be heard in an upcoming City Council Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

The 7th Council District serves the communities of Lake View Terrace, Mission Hills, North Hills, Pacoima, Panorama City, and Sylmar.

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