

Please submit your letter of support for AB 2806 through the California Legislature Position Letter Portal:

<https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>

(If you have any difficulty submitting your letter through the portal, please send it to

mmarc@kidango.org and Daniel.Folwarkow@asm.ca.gov).

[Insert Your Logo]

Month, XX 2022

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell
Chair, Assembly Education Committee
California State Assembly
1020 N Street
Room 159
Sacramento, CA 9581

The Honorable Lisa Calderon
Chair, Human Services Committee
California State Assembly
1020 N Street
Room 124
Sacramento, CA 9581

RE: AB 2806 (B. Rubio)- Support - Expulsion and Suspension Procedures in Early Learning and Care Programs

Dear Chairman O'Donnell, Chairwoman Calderon and Committee Members,

[NAME OF ORGANIZATION] is writing to express our strong support for Assembly Bill 2806 (B. Rubio) and respectfully requests your "Aye" vote. National data indicates that children are expelled, suspended, excluded from, and counseled out of early learning and care programs at much higher rates than in K-12 education and that African American, Black and Latinx children, especially boys, are disproportionately impacted by this practice. When children are excluded from early learning classrooms, they miss out on the opportunity to develop key social, emotional and academic skills. California cannot continue to allow exclusionary measures that are counterproductive for our children by allowing early learning and care settings to exclude them at a time when they are most in need of support, care, and guidance.

AB 2806 would define suspension and expulsion in preschool and child care settings, eliminate exclusionary practices, and provide that suspension and expulsion only be used as a last resort in extraordinary circumstances where there are serious and documented safety concerns. The bill also provides early learning and care providers with early childhood mental health consultation services that help create inclusive and anti-bias environments, interactions, and experiences that buffer the effects of trauma and bring out the most optimal development of each unique child.

AB 2806 will help reduce the disparities in exclusionary practices for children in preschool and early care settings while ensuring California's early learning and care system, administrators and teachers have the tools they need to begin correcting injustices. The bill will expand and strengthen access to early childhood mental health consultation services to empower and equip adults, including staff and families, within the early learning and care setting with skills to transform their practices, attitudes, implicit bias, behaviors, and interactions. This transformation builds the adults' capacity and ability to

promote the healthy development, deeper learning, and stronger social-emotional well-being of all young learners.

California’s Early Learning and Care Master Plan has set a goal to strengthen programs and services to support children’s learning and development, by increasing equitable treatment of children through severely diminishing the use of suspensions and expulsions. For these reasons, **[NAME OF ORGANIZATION]** supports AB 2806 and respectfully requests your “Aye” vote.

Sincerely,

[YOUR FULL NAME]
[YOUR TITLE]