



May 23, 2018

CA Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission
on Early Childhood Education
Sub-Committee to Improve Access
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Co-Chairs Ignatius and Olenick,

On behalf of First 5 California and First 5 Los Angeles, we are pleased to provide our recommendations for the Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education's (BRC) consideration for their Summer Commission Hearing.

[First 5 Los Angeles](#), the First 5 local county commission for Los Angeles county, and [First 5 California](#), the state agency and Commission, also known as the California Children and Families Commission, work to build strong, effective, and sustainable systems serving California's young children.

We recommend the following state actions to increase access to early care and education for children and families facing particular barriers:

Consumer Education Database

We strongly support continued efforts to strengthen the infrastructure to support quality and efficiency through the creation of a statewide database and online portal that not only connects existing early care and education data but provides an opportunity for better consumer accessibility to information about California's existing early care system.

Recognizing the tremendous local efforts to build the infrastructure necessary to provide this information, we recommend coordinating and building upon existing efforts in order to avoid duplication, best use limited resources, and consider key lessons learned. We also recommend including a Unique Child ID in the consumer education database and all state-funded ECE programs that is linked to our CalPADS longitudinal data system. Additionally, we recommend building a database that has the ability to connect to other data systems beyond education.

We appreciate your consideration of the recommendations outlined in this letter. We encourage your visionary leadership in this process to ensure that our youngest children and working families have access to quality, affordable early care and education opportunities. If you have any questions, please

do not hesitate to contact Erin Gabel, Deputy Director of External and Governmental Affairs for First 5 California, at egabel@ccfc.ca.gov or (916) 263-1093.

Sincerely,

First 5 California and First 5 LA