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April 13, 2020

Ms. Keely Martin Bosler, Director Department of Finance Room 1145, State Capitol Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Ms. Bosler:

In a letter dated April 10, 2020, you notified the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC), pursuant to Section 36.00, Chapter 2, Statutes of 2020, of your intention to augment the *2019 Budget Act* to assist state and local governments in protecting the health and safety of the public and reducing the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Specifically, Item 6100-194-0001 is augmented by \$50 million for the California Department of Education (CDE) to reimburse child care providers for gloves, face coverings, cleaning supplies, or labor related to cleaning in accordance with COVID-19 emergency public health and safety guidance. The CDE is to allocate the funding to local Resource and Referral agencies, which would in turn distribute funding to child care providers that remain open or plan to reopen during the COVID-19 emergency.

Given the severity of the COVID-19 crisis, I concur with the spending request. I respectfully request that the Department of Finance provide the JLBC with an update on the methodology for allocating funds to providers and how the state will identify which providers remain open or plan to reopen during the COVID-19 emergency. Additionally, I request the administration provide greater detail on the extent to which child care providers will be able to benefit from personal protective equipment recently procured by the state. Finally, I request that the administration provide the JLBC with information on how child care centers and family day care providers will be able to procure the necessary cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment while these items remain in short supply.

Sincerely,

Holly J. Mitchell Chair

cc: Members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee