



February 9, 2023

The Honorable Luz Rivas
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 4250
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 393 (Rivas)
Position: Co-Sponsor

Dear Assembly Member Rivas,

Early Edge, The California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE), and Californians Together are pleased to co-sponsor AB 393 (Rivas), which would expand asset-based dual language learner (DLL) identification to general childcare (CCTR) and migrant childcare programs (CMIG). This bill builds on landmark legislation which for the first time in the nation, improved and standardized the identification of DLLs to be able to better resource and support them. This is a critical next step as it will build a foundation for the cradle-to-career data system that builds on DLLs’ linguistic skills and needs.

Specifically, AB 393 requires the Department of Social Services to establish a standardized process for identifying DLLs enrolled in CCTR or CMIG programs and requires contractors to report essential information about them. This information will help childcare providers support DLLs develop their home language and English. In addition, it will help inform state resource allocation decisions that could be leveraged to support the long-term success of DLLs by developing their early linguistic assets that benefit them and the state as a whole.

Child care programs must be culturally and linguistically responsive and integrate supports to ensure that DLL’s linguistic and related developmental needs are met. Standardizing DLL identification and collecting crucial information about their assets helps raise awareness about the importance and benefits of home language and bilingualism.

This bill will ensure DLLs have positive outcomes and provide them with the support they need to be successful in a global economy. On behalf of Early Edge, CABE, and Californians Together, we thank you for your continued support and leadership of California’s DLL students. Should you have any questions regarding our requests, feel free to reach out to Early Edge Legislative Advocate Patti Herrera at pattih@sscal.com, CABE Legislative Advocate Jennifer Baker at jbaker@m-w-h.org or Californians Together Legislative Advocate Cristina Salazar at cristina@californianstogether.org.

Sincerely,

Jan Gustafson Corea
CABE
Chief Executive Officer

Martha Hernandez
Californians Together
Executive Director

Patricia Lozano
Early Edge California
Executive Director