July 12, 2006

Senator Kevin Murray
Chairman
California State Senate Appropriations Committee
Room 5050
State Capital
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Murray,

On July 6, 2006 the Economy and Efficiency Commission voted to support the position of Los Angeles County to remove SB 1421 from the Senate Appropriations suspense file. This Commission has taken this position as a result of its commitment to reducing fraud or the potential for fraud within all County administered programs. We feel that as long as there are or may be serious problems of people defrauding the child care funding system that we should lend our support, wherever possible, in seeking a solution.

If, as has been stated by Supervisor Knabe that the vast majority of child care fraud is occurring in the state-controlled Stage 2 and Stage 3, it becomes morally and fiscally critical to develop an approach to combat or detect fraud in these two programs. SB 1421 which proposes a pilot program to investigate fraud in the programs within L.A. County over two years would be a reasonable and appropriate beginning toward ensuring that those that need help are taken care of and those that desire defraud the system are prevented from doing so.

If the Economy and Efficiency Commission can be of any assistance in advancing this legislation please let us know.

Regards,

[Signature]

Jaclyn Tilley Hill
Chair

C: Senator Bob Margett
Senator Don Perata
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Mr. James Starkey