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August 13, 2021

Dear Governor Newsom, Speaker Rendon, and Pro-Tem Atkins:

On behalf of ReadyNation California, a network of over 300 business leaders who support kid-focused policies and programs that build a stronger workforce and economy, we are writing to thank you for passing a momentous budget with historical investments in California's children and youth.

We believe that we must invest in our future workforce from cradle to career, including programs in early childhood care and education, K-12 and post-secondary education, as well as after-school programs, integrated services like community schools, and ending the digital divide in California.

This year's budget will make a lasting impact on generations to come, and we particularly want to highlight our gratitude and appreciation for the below investments:

 EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION	 CHILDREN'S HEALTH & NUTRITION	 K-12 EDUCATION	 HIGHER EDUCATION
 EXPANDED CHILD CARE SLOTS FOR MORE FAMILIES	 UNIVERSAL SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL STUDENTS	 LOCAL CONTROL FUNDING FORMULA ADJUSTMENT	 CAL GRANT ENROLLMENT EXPANSION
 CHILD CARE RATE REFORM	 STREAMLINED CALFRESH APPLICATION PROCESS	 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SCHOOL	 EXPANSION OF THE MIDDLE CLASS SCHOLARSHIP
 WAIVED FAMILY FEES FOR CHILD CARE	 PROP 56 PAYMENTS FOR MEDI-CAL PROVIDERS	 COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	
 PANDEMIC RECOVERY FOR CHILD CARE	 EXPANDED LEARNING PROGRAMS	 INCREASING COLLEGE/ CAREER READINESS THROUGH A-G COMPLETION FUNDS	
 UNIVERSAL TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN	 MORE FUNDING FOR AFTERSCHOOL AND SUMMER ENRICHMENT	 FUNDING FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE	
	 ASES RATE INCREASES		

These historic and transformative investments in children and families set precedence for future growth and impact in these spaces, especially for those who experience current and historic oppression. We must continue to work to ensure that this progress is stable and ongoing.

Together, we can increase economic prosperity for all families while supporting safer communities, healthier children, and a more productive economy.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to investing in our future.

Please note: organizations are listed for identification purposes only