

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS
COUNCIL FOR A STRONG AMERICA
CALIFORNIA

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is a member organization comprised of police chiefs, sheriffs, district attorneys, and violence survivors protecting public safety by promoting solutions that steer kids away from crime.

# 2022-2023 Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Budget and Legislative Policy Agenda

## Early Childhood Care & Education (ECE)

Access to high-quality early education is critical to our next generation's future success. Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is committed to strengthening California's early childhood education system because law enforcement leaders know that one of the best ways to prepare kids for school, improve graduation rates, and keep them on a path towards success involves making sure they have a strong foundation in their earliest years.

### ECE Budget & Policy Priorities:

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids supports budget and policy requests that include increasing provider rates, increased investments in subsidized child care, waiving copayments or fees for low-income families in childcare, and investments in technology and infrastructure, including new money for facilities. Fight Crime: Invest in Kids will work with the legislature and advocacy groups to ensure that the 2022-2023 budget addresses the diverse needs of California, and strengthens the state's mixed-delivery child care system from birth through 12th grade. Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is an active member of California's ECE Budget Coalition, and supports their priorities.

## Expanded Learning Programs

Expanded Learning (After School) programs serve as an essential resource for school-aged youth by creating safe spaces, fostering connections, preventing juvenile crime, and improving academic performance. Our Fight Crime: Invest in Kids law enforcement members know that California's afterschool programs positively engage young people by connecting them to their community and caring adults, keeping them safe, and building their academic, social, and emotional skills.

### Expanded Learning Budget & Policy Priorities:

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids supports continued investments in expanded learning programs, and coordination between child care and after school programs. Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is an active member of the California Afterschool Advocacy Alliance and supports their priorities to strengthen the After School Education and Safety (ASES) and 21st Century Community Learning (CCLC) programs.

## K-12 and Postsecondary Education

Equipping students with the skills, resources, and credentials of value they need to succeed in our workforce is imperative to our state's future success. Fight Crime: Invest in Kids supports evidence-based solutions that increase equity in postsecondary completion and close the digital divide through: broadband access, device access, and digital literacy. We also support increasing school funding, providing integrated services and meeting the needs of all students.

### K-12 Budget & Policy Priorities:

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids supports comprehensive funding for schools including the proposed COLA for California's school funding formula, the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF); continued funding for mental health services in schools; and full-service community schools. Additionally, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids works to prioritize dual-enrollment, streamlined transfer pathways between community college and four-year universities, STEM and computer science education, and addressing the digital divide.



COUNCIL FOR A STRONG AMERICA

Council for a Strong America unites organizations of powerful community leaders from business, law enforcement and retired military who advocate for cradle to career policies and investments to foster the next generation's growth and success in school, work, and life.