

Dear Senator

I respectfully request that you oppose AB 172, the universal preschool system. California voters recently rejected Prop 82 and the legislature should follow the desires of the citizens who elected them.

AB 172 does not identify funding sources to support the legislature's intended program. Cost estimates for universal preschool range from \$6,000 - \$12,000 per pupil, a tall order for our financially-challenged state.

Throughout childhood, a child's parents provide the best nurturing and the most important moral and spiritual guidance. Particularly during infancy and the preschool years, this care is best provided at home. Rather than develop expensive state programs to provide institutionalized childcare, the state should assist families by lowering the tax burden and allowing more parents to stay at home with their children.

Again, please oppose AB 172. I look forward to your reply indicating how you intend to vote on this important issue.

Sincerely,