

**A Chance To Restore Early Start!**

Within the next two weeks, two Budget Subcommittees in the Legislature will be discussing the developmental services Budget. This is our chance to urge restoration of the Early Start program! Our opportunities will occur on April 11th in the Senate (Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services, a.k.a. “Sub 3”), and on April 17th in the Assembly (Subcommittee #1 on Health and Human Services, a.k.a. “Sub 1”). We need you to call, email, or visit committee members and share your stories about why Early Start matters, and why it must be restored to pre-Budget reduction status! You can even testify at the meetings!

Early Start provides services for children with, or at risk of, developmental disability. Quick action and intensive therapies make a life-long difference for infants and children, and save the state money in the long run. In 2008, for example, over 40% of children in Early Start reached the developmental levels of their peers! But cuts since 2009 have left thousands of at-risk infants and children without early treatments that could have a life-changing positive effect on them.

The members and staff of these two subcommittees need to know that Early Start funding must be returned to what it was before 2009. Even if you are not a constituent of these legislators, you can still advocate for restoration. Email a short note asking for them to “prioritize the restoration of Early Start to its pre-2009 levels.” Or call and ask to speak with the person who advises the legislator on health and human services issues, and tell them how you’ve been affected!

*Share your story about why this program matters to you and your community, and why Early Start is how better results start!*

**Senate - “Sub 3”**

**April 11th @ 9:30am**

Senator Monning (chair)

*email*: <http://tinyurl.com/S3-SenM>

*Phone*: 916.651.4017

Senator Emmerson

*email:* <http://tinyurl.com/S3-SenE>

*Phone: 916.651.4023*

Senator DeSaulnier

*email:* <http://tinyurl.com/S3-SenD>

*Phone*: 916.651.4007

Consultant Jennifer Troia

*email*: <http://tinyurl.com/S3-ConT>

*Phone:* 916.651.4103

**Assembly - “Sub 1”**

**April 17th @ 1:30pm**

Assemblymember Mitchell (chair)

*Email:* <http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmM>

*Phone*: 916.319.2054

Assemblymember Chesbro

*Email:* <http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmC>

*Phone*: 916.319.2002

Assemblymember Dickinson

*Email:* <http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmD>

*Phone*: 916.319.2007

Assemblymember Grove
*Email:* <http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmG>

*Phone*: 916.319.2034

Assemblymember Mansoor

*Email:* <http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmMn>

*Phone*: 916.319.2074

Consultant Nicole Vazquez

*email*: <http://tinyurl.com/S1-ConV>

*Phone*: 916.319.2099

Republican Sub 3 Consultant

Kirk Feely

*Email:* <http://tinyurl.com/S3-RepK>

Republican Sub 1 Consultant

Julie Souliere

*Email:* <http://tinyurl.com/S1-RepJ>

Since the Sub 3 meets on the 11th, and Sub 1 is on the 17th, your input matters most **now**. Please contact Sub 3 by noon on the 10th, and Sub 1 before the 16th! Many of the email links are for forms that have ultra-limited space, so this is a time for the “30-second elevator speech” on why this matters!