



# **San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance**

## **February 2014 Legislative Report**

Prepared by:  
HCF, Jeremy Harris  
[jeremy@harrisfirm.biz](mailto:jeremy@harrisfirm.biz)  
714-264-9289

### **Legislative Report**

- **AB 337 (Allen – R) Economic Development: International Trade: Investments**
- **SB 371 (DeSaulnier – D) State Homes and Jobs Act of 2013**
- **SB 397 (Hueso – D) Vehicles: Enhanced Driver's License**
- **SB 837 (Steinberg – D) Schools: Transitional Kindergarten**

**Summary**

1. AB 337 would require the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) to evaluate key issues affecting trade and foreign investment as part of the development of the previously mandated international trade and investment strategy (ITI Strategy).

**Background**

2. In undertaking this evaluation, GO-Biz is directed, to the greatest extent possible, to use existing reports and other resources.
3. The evaluation required by this measure applies to the second update of the strategy, which should occur no later than February 1, 2019.
4. California's \$2 trillion economy naturally functions as an independent nation and is highly dependent on industry sectors that participate within the larger global economy.
5. California has one of the 10 largest economies in the world, due to it being a top-tier trade partner, a best-in-class investment location, a high quality producer of goods and services, and the home and key access point for a massive consumer-base.
6. In 2012, California exported \$162 billion in products to over 220 foreign countries. While California has been significantly impacted by the recession, exports continued to increase in almost every quarter from 2010 through 2012.
7. It is estimated that one in five manufacturing jobs in California is related to trade. Goods movement supports employment, business profit, and state and local tax revenue.
8. The logistics industry is responsible for hiring 73,000 workers. California businesses rely heavily on the state's ports and their related transportation systems to move manufactured goods.
9. Firms rely on fast, flexible, and reliable shipping to link national and global supply chains and bring products to the retail market. Transportation breakdowns and congestion can idle entire global production networks.
10. Changes in U.S. and global trade patterns and the continuing development of foreign markets place challenges on California's goods movement and IT systems. These challenges are only expected to become greater as the rate of innovation within manufacturing, transportation, and communication technologies gets faster and the ability of multiple geographic locations to successfully use these technologies expands.
11. In January 2010, the President announced a national goal of doubling U.S. exports within five years, setting a 2015 target for U.S. exports of \$3.14 trillion.
12. In accomplishing this goal, the federal government has and will continue to implement new programs, targeting existing trade related activities, and increasing funding and technical assistance within its current programs.
13. For California, the second largest exporter of products in the U.S. and the largest receiver of foreign direct investment in the nation, this federal goal could result in significant new trade and investment opportunities.
14. California has already received nearly \$4 million in federal funds to administer a state export assistance program for small businesses. Since the announcement of the new national goal, exports from California were up \$41 billion.
15. Further, with the upgrading of the Panama Canal and two new broad-based trade agreements being negotiated and implemented (the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Agreement), California goods movement infrastructure will face even greater pressure to perform.
16. Between 2003 and 2006, California had no trade and international marketing authority. After years of debate, the Legislature and the Governor began an unprecedented collaboration on the development of a new international trade and investment program.
17. Agreements on the new program were codified in SB 1513 (Romero and Figueroa), Chapter 663, Statutes of 2006, and further refined in AB 2012 (John A. Perez), Chapter 294, Statutes of 2012.

18. The current ITI Strategy was finalized in August 2008 and the next strategy is due in February 2014.
19. AB 337 has passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee with a unanimous, bi-partisan vote.
20. AB 337 is currently pending a hearing in the Senate Business, Professions & Economic Development Committee.

#### **Arguments in Support**

21. According to the author, “Due to the amount of jobs and revenue relying on California’s ports, it’s imperative that we support this vital component of our international trade strategy (AB 337). Our ports continuously need to adapt to meet the demands of the rapidly evolving global trade marketplace. This bill sends the message that the Legislature is committed to strengthening California’s economy through one of our strongest and best opportunities for growth – international trade.”

#### **Arguments in Opposition**

22. None on file at this time.

#### **Supporting**

None on file at this time.

#### **Opposing**

None on file at this time.

**Summary**

1. SB 371 would establish the California Homes and Jobs Act of 2013 (the Act) to provide funding for affordable housing.

**Background**

2. Specifically, SB 371 would:
  - a. Beginning January 1, 2014, imposes a \$75 fee on every real estate instrument, paper or notice required or permitted by law, excluding documents recorded in connection with a transfer that is subject to a documentary transfer tax.
  - b. Requires the fee, minus any administrative costs of the county recorder for collection, to be transferred quarterly to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and deposited into the Homes and Jobs Trust Fund.
  - c. Allows money in the Trust Fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to be used to support the development, acquisition, rehabilitation and preservation of housing affordable to low and moderate-income households, as specified.
  - d. Requires HCD, in consultation with the California Housing Finance Agency, the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee and the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee to develop a California Homes and Jobs Trust Fund Investment Strategy.
  - e. Requires HCD to submit the first investment strategy to the Legislature as part of the Governor's May Revision of the Budget Act in 2014-15 and every five years after as part of the Budget Act beginning in 2019-20.
  - f. Requires the Bureau of State Audits to conduct periodic audits to ensure that the annual allocation to individual programs is awarded in a timely fashion beginning two years from the bill's effective date.
3. SB 371 would have a fiscal effect of approximately \$300 million to \$720 million of generated revenues per year depending on the volume of recorded documents.
4. Estimated annual administrative costs would be approximately \$5.4 million to fund up to 47 positions at HCD, which would be fully covered by the fees.
5. Costs would be in the range of \$250,000 to \$350,000 in 2016-17 for BSA to conduct an initial audit, with ongoing periodic audit costs in the range of \$150,000 to \$250,000. All BSA audit costs would be fully covered by the fees.
6. SB 371 requires that monies in the Homes and Jobs Trust Fund go for the development, acquisition, rehabilitation, and preservation of homes affordable to low and moderate-income households, including emergency shelters, transitional and permanent rental housing, foreclosure mitigation, and homeownership opportunities.
7. SB 371 is currently pending a hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

**Arguments in Support**

8. Supporters, including the United Ways of California, argue the California Homes and Jobs Act is an ongoing funding source that helps the state live within its means. It increases California's supply of affordable homes, creates jobs and spurs economic growth without incurring additional debt. The act imposes a \$75 fee on documents related to real estate transactions, excluding home sales.
9. Supporters also note the act will create 29,000 jobs annually, primarily in the beleaguered construction sector, leverage an additional \$2.78 billion in federal, local and private investment and build nearly 10,000 affordable apartments and single family homes a year for Californians in need, including families, seniors, veterans, people with disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness.

10. Business groups including the Orange County Business Council and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group say California needs to increase the supply of housing options affordable to workers, so companies can compete for the talent that drives California's economy.

### Arguments in Opposition

11. Opponents contend the proposed fee established by this bill has no relation to affordable housing and places additional financial burdens on ordinary Californians. They point out that some recordings or transactions involve more than one document, in which case the per-document fee will add to the already substantial cost of recording. In addition, county recorders will encounter significant increases in staff time to collect fees and address unsatisfied customers.
12. The California Credit Union League (CCUL) argues that the new tax imposed by this bill would result in their members having to incur additional costs when refinancing their home loans or looking to modify their home loans. CCUL states that during these difficult times, when credit unions are trying to keep their members in their homes and are recording a variety of different real estate documents in order to do so, it is very important that we do not increase costs on credit union members who want to take advantage of these services.
13. Finally, the Associated Builders and Contractors of California (ABC) contends this bill essentially mandates the use of a project labor agreement because it exempts projects with a project labor agreement from reimbursing DIR for prevailing wage enforcement costs. ABC contends the use of a project labor agreement usually results in higher construction costs for taxpayers.

### Supporting

|  |  |
|--|--|
| A Community of Friends   | California Association of Housing Authorities                          |
| AARP   | California Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies               |
| Abode Communities  | California Building Industry Association                               |
| Advent Companies   | California Coalition for Rural Housing                                 |
| Affordable Housing Management Association of Northern CA, Nevada, and Hawaii | California Coalition for Youth   |
| Affordable Housing Management Association, Pacific Southwest                 | California Conference of Carpenters                                    |
| AFSCME   | California Council for Affordable Housing                              |
| Alameda County Board of Supervisors  | California Council of Community Mental Health Agencies                 |
| Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Council                            | California Community Reinvestment Corporation                          |
| Alameda County Transportation Commission                                     | California Disability Services Association                             |
| Alpha Construction Company   | California Housing Consortium (co-sponsor)                             |
| AMCAL Multi-Housing  | California Housing Partnership Corporation                             |
| American Baptist Homes of the West   | California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO                                   |
| American Planning Association, California Chapter                            | California Mental Health Directors Association                         |
| Amity Foundation   | California Mental Health Planning Council                              |
| Amstutz Associates   | California Partnership to End Domestic Violence                        |
| Angelus Plaza  | California Police Chiefs Association                                   |
| Ashwood Construction   | California Reinvestment Coalition                                      |
| Asian Pacific Environmental Network  | California Retailers Association                                       |
| Aspiranet  | California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation                           |
| Association of Regional Center Agencies                                      | California School Employees Association                                |
| Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County                                       | Carson Chamber of Commerce   |
| Bay Area Business Roundtable   | Casa Major   |
| Bay Area Community Land Trust  | Center for Elders' Independence  |
| Bay Area Council   | Central City Association   |
| Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative                               | Century Housing  |
| BRC Advisors   | Century Villages at Cabrillo   |
| BRIDGE Housing   | Cesar Chavez Foundation  |
| Building Industry Association of Southern CA, Orange County Chapter          | CHISPA   |
| Burbank Housing Development Corporation                                      | Cities of Berkeley, Burbank, Calexico, Del Mar, El Centro, El Monte,   |
| Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation                                    | Emeryville, Fairfield, Goleta, Jurupa Valley, Livingston, Los Angeles, |
| Cahill Contractors   | Lynwood, Oakland, Oxnard, Pasadena, Sacramento, San Francisco, San     |
| California Apartment Association   |  |

Joaquin, San Jose, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa  
 Barbara, Santa  
 Monica, Torrance, Ventura, Vista, and West Hollywood  
 Coachella Valley Housing Coalition  
 Community Corporation of Santa Monica  
 Community Health Improvement Partners  
 Community Housing Improvement Program  
 Community Housing Opportunities Corporation  
 Community Housing Works  
 Community Working Group  
 Contra Costa Health Services  
 Corporation for Supportive Housing  
 Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Francisco  
 Curtom-Dunsmuir  
 Dignity Health  
 DMB Pacific Ventures  
 Domus Development  
 Drug Policy Alliance  
 Duncan Group  
 EAH Housing  
 East Bay Developmental Disabilities Legislative Coalition  
 East Bay Housing Organizations  
 East LA Community Corporation  
 Ecumenical Council Pasadena Area Congregations  
 Eden Housing  
 Enterprise Community Partners  
 Environmental Health Coalition  
 Episcopal Community Services of San Francisco  
 First Place for Youth  
 Foundation for Affordable Housing  
 Fullerton Chamber of Commerce  
 Gonzalez Goodale Architects  
 Habitat for Humanity California  
 Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley  
 Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco  
 Habitat for Humanity Greater Los Angeles  
 Habitat for Humanity Inland Valley  
 Habitat for Humanity Pomona Valley  
 Habitat for Humanity Riverside  
 Habitat for Humanity San Gabriel Valley  
 Habitat for Humanity San Luis Obispo County  
 Habitat for Humanity Santa Cruz County  
 Hamilton Family Center  
 Highridge Costa Housing Partners  
 Hollywood Community Housing Corporation  
 Home Builders Association of Tulare/Kings Counties  
 Home Start  
 Homes for Life Foundation  
 Housing Authority for the City of San Buenaventura  
 Housing California (co-sponsor)  
 Housing Choices Coalition for People with Developmental  
 Disabilities  
 Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County  
 Housing Works  
 ICON Builders  
 InnerCity Struggle  
 Integrity Housing  
 Interfaith Community Services  
 International Association for Women of Color Day  
 Jamboree Housing Corporation

John Stewart Company  
 Kennedy Commission  
 L.A. Family Housing  
 LA Voice  
 LA Works  
 Larkin Street Youth Services  
 Laurin Associates  
 Lauterbach and Associates  
 Law Foundation of Silicon Valley  
 Leading Age California  
 League of California Cities  
 League of Women Voters of California  
 LeSar Development Consultants  
 LifeSTEPS  
 LINC Housing  
 Little Tokyo Service Center  
 Loaves and Fishes  
 Local Initiatives Support Corporation  
 Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce  
 Los Angeles Business Council  
 Los Angeles Business Leaders Task Force on Homelessness  
 Los Angeles Community Action Network  
 Los Angeles Regional Reentry Partnership  
 Lutheran Office of Public Policy  
 Mammoth Lakes Housing  
 Marin Workforce Housing Trust  
 Mental Health America of Los Angeles  
 Mental Health Systems  
 Mercy Housing  
 Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
 MidPen Housing Corporation  
 Move LA  
 Multicultural Communities for Mobility  
 Mutual Housing California  
 Nancy Lewis Associates  
 Napa Valley Community Housing  
 National Community Renaissance  
 National Council of La Raza  
 National Housing Law Project  
 National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
 Natural Resources Defense Council  
 Navigage  
 Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles County  
 Neighborhood Partnership Housing Services  
 NeighborWorks Orange County  
 Nevada/California Indian Housing Association  
 New Directions  
 Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California  
 Northern California Community Loan Fund  
 Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority  
 Opportune Companies  
 Orange County Business Council  
 Orange County Housing Trust  
 Pacific Clinics  
 Palm Communities  
 Partner Energy  
 Pasadena Police Department  
 Pasadena Public Health Department  
 Peace Officers Research Association of California  
 Peninsula Interfaith Action

Penny Lane Centers  
 People Assisting the Homeless  
 Peoples' Self-Help Housing Corporation  
 PICO California  
 PMG  
 PolicyLink  
 Public Advocates  
 Related California  
 Resources for Community Development  
 Ruiz Brothers Construction Co.  
 Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation  
 Rural Community Assistance Corporation  
 Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee  
 Sacramento Housing Alliance  
 San Benito County Housing and Economic Development  
 Department  
 San Diego Community Land Trust  
 San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce  
 San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness  
 San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
 San Luis Obispo County Housing Trust Fund  
 San Mateo County Board of Supervisors  
 Self-Help Enterprises  
 Service Employees International Union (SEIU) California  
 State Council  
 Sierra Business Council  
 Sierra Club California  
 Silicon Valley Bank  
 Silicon Valley Leadership Group  
 Skid Row Housing Trust  
 Sonoma County Task Force for the Homeless  
 Southeast Asian Community Alliance  
 Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing  
 SPUR  
 SRO Housing Corporation  
 St. Joseph Center  
 St. Joseph Health

## Opposing

Air Conditioning Trade Association  
 Associa  
 Associated Builders and Contractors of California  
 Board of Equalization Member George Runner  
 Board of Equalization Member Michelle Steel  
 Butte County Board of Supervisors  
 Butte County Clerk-Recorder  
 Calaveras County Clerk-Recorder  
 California Association of Legal Document Assistants  
 California Association of Realtors  
 California Credit Union League  
 California Document Preparers  
 California Escrow Association  
 California Land Surveyors Association  
 California Land Title Association  
 California Mortgage Association  
 California Taxpayers Association  
 Cities of Camarillo, Cypress, and Waterford  
 Colusa County Clerk Recorder  
 Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder

St. Paul's Senior Home and Services  
 Stand Up for Neighborly Novato  
 State Building and Construction Trades Council of California  
 State Independent Living Council  
 State Treasurer Bill Lockyer  
 Step Up on Second  
 Sun Country Builders  
 Sunseri Construction  
 Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Los Angeles County  
 T.R.U.S.T. South LA  
 TELACU Residential Management, Inc.  
 Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation  
 Thai Community Development Center  
 The Arc  
 The KTG Group  
 Thomas Safran and Associates  
 Turning Point Community Programs  
 United Cerebral Palsy in California  
 United Homeless Healthcare Partners  
 United States Veterans Initiative  
 United Way of Fresno County  
 United Way of Greater Los Angeles  
 United Way of the Bay Area  
 United Way Silicon Valley  
 United Ways of California  
 Valley Economic Development Center  
 Venice Community Housing Corporation  
 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Greater El Monte Post  
 Visionary Home Builders  
 Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation  
 Walton Construction Services  
 Ward Economic Development Corporation  
 West Angeles Community Development Corporation  
 Western Center on Law and Poverty  
 Westport Construction  
 Women Organizing Resources, Knowledge, and Services

Counties of Butte, Colusa, Lassen, Mono, Orange, San Luis  
 Obispo, and Sierra  
 County of Siskiyou Board of Supervisors  
 County Recorders' Association of California  
 El Dorado County Recorder-Clerk  
 Glenn County Clerk-Recorder  
 Hamman Real Estate  
 Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association  
 Inyo County Clerk Recorder  
 Kern County Assessor-Recorder  
 Madera County Clerk-Recorder  
 Marin County Assessor-Recorder-Clerk  
 Mariposa County Assessor-Recorder  
 Michelle Steel, VC State Board of Equalization  
 Napa County Assessor-Recorder Clerk  
 Nevada County Clerk-Recorder  
 Orange County Clerk-Recorder  
 Placer County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters  
 Plumas County Clerk  
 Plumas County Clerk

Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association of  
California  
Riverside County Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder  
San Bernardino County Recorder-Clerk  
San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors  
San Luis Obispo County Clerk-Recorder  
Santa Barbara County Clerk, Recorder and Assessor  
Sierra County Board of Supervisors

Sierra County Clerk-Recorder  
Sonoma County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor  
Stanislaus County Clerk-Recorder  
Tehama County Clerk-Recorder  
Western Electrical Contractors Association  
Western Mining Alliance  
Yolo County Clerk-Recorder



### **Summary**

1. SB 397 authorizes the DMV to issue enhanced driver's licenses, which include transmission technology to denote identity and citizenship, for purposes of entering the United States at land and sea ports of entry.

### **Background**

2. Specifically, SB 397 would:
  - a. Authorizes the DMV to enter into a memorandum of understanding with a federal agency to allow the department to offer applications for an enhanced driver's license, instructional permit, provisional license, or identification card [hereafter EDL] to a person at least 16 years of age, a resident of California, and a U.S. citizen.
  - b. Prohibits an employer from requiring an employee to obtain or use an EDL as a condition of employment or from taking an adverse action against an employee for refusing to do so.
  - c. Requires an applicant for an EDL to sign a declaration acknowledging his or her understanding of radio frequency identification (RFID) technology, and requires the EDL to include reasonable security measures to protect against unauthorized duplication or disclosure of personal information.
  - d. Requires DMV to inform the applicant that the randomly assigned RFID number can be read remotely without the holder's knowledge, especially if the EDL is not enclosed in a protective shield or similar tamper-resistant device.
  - e. Requires the DMV to set an EDL application fee, to exceed \$55, and provides that fees shall be deposited in the EDL and Identification Card Subaccount and expended to implement this bill.
3. Requires DMV to report annually to relevant legislative committees on the number of EDLs issued, the effect on wait times and traffic congestion at points of entry, and whether there have been any security or privacy breaches related to the use of the EDL.
4. One-time costs special fund costs of around \$4.5 million over two to five years, if the DMV exercises the authority to develop the EDL program. Start-up costs would include completing an MOU with the Department of Homeland Security; establishing secure, verifiable database connectivity; adopting regulations to require documentation to prove citizenship, identity and residency and the criteria for EDL denial. This would involve significant information technology programming and purchase of RFID readers and other equipment.
5. In 2012, AB 2113 (Hueso), was similar legislation to this bill. That legislative proposal was held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

### **Arguments in Support**

6. According to the California Chamber of Commerce, the "ports of entry along the California-Mexico border are among the busiest ports in the world." The Chamber claims that each year forty-five million vehicle passengers cross the border at one of six points of entry, and that "the average wait for travelers at these ports is over an hour."
7. The Chamber further claims that these delays "result in a loss of eight million trips each year," and that in San Diego County alone this translates into an estimated loss of \$1.2 billion in revenues. The Chamber believes that this bill will relieve border congestion by allowing travelers to use "ready lanes," and that it will allow CBP officers to quickly assess information "and focus on the traveler's vehicle as opposed to scanning documents - reducing wait time by up to 60%."

### **Arguments in Opposition**

8. The ACLU opposes this SB 397 primarily because of the privacy or security risks associated with the use of RFID and the collection of facial images by the DMV. ACLU believes that this bill will "create a biometric database with Californians' facial scans and signatures" and thereby "raises surveillance, tracking, and security questions that deserve deliberate attention." Citing recently publicized revelations that the National Security Administration (NSA) collected information about American citizens, ACLU fears that this bill will create a new data base that could lead to even more surveillance and threats to privacy.

9. For example, ACLU cites the 2001 incident in which Tampa police allegedly scanned the faces of tens of thousands of people attending the Super Bowl. Similarly, ACLU reasons, law enforcement could scan the faces of persons attending rallies, strikes, or protests and compare the scanned images to images stored in the DMV or CBP database, or any other government database to which DMV would be authorized to submit them. ACLU also suggests that as RFID readers become more readily available, such readers could be set up at various locations, tracking the movements of U.S. citizens as they pass by hidden readers. Finally, ACLU cites possible security concerns, citing the prospect that criminals might not only read but duplicate the random RFID number and create counterfeit EDLs. Although ACLU welcomes proposed amendments to provide more notice to persons who request EDLs, it believes that the bill still lacks sufficiently strong and robust privacy protections.

### **Supporting**

California Chamber of Commerce  
City of Chula Vista, Office of the Deputy Mayor  
City of San Diego  
Gobernador Del Estado De Baja California, Jose Gaudalupe Osuna Millan  
Imperial County Board of Supervisors  
Imperial County Transportation Commission  
Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce  
San Diego Tijuana Smart Border Coalition  
South County Economic Development Council

### **Opposing**

ACLU  
Consumer Federation of California

### **Summary**

1. SB 837 would create the Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2014 and require each school district or charter school that offers kindergarten to offer transitional kindergarten, and would require a child that meets specified minimum age requirements to be admitted to transitional kindergarten.

### **Background**

2. Current law authorizes a school district or charter school to maintain a transitional kindergarten program, and, as a condition of receipt of apportionments for pupils in a transitional kindergarten program, requires the school district or charter school to comply with specified minimum age requirements for pupils participating in the transitional kindergarten program.
3. Current law also specifies that a transitional kindergarten program shall not be construed as a new program or higher level of service.
4. SB 837 would authorize the average daily attendance of a school district to include the average daily attendance of pupils enrolled in transitional kindergarten and would require transitional kindergarten to receive a per pupil base grant for apportionment purposes, as specified.
5. SB 837 would require transitional kindergarten to be taught by teachers and associate teachers who meet certain requirements, and would require transitional kindergarten to include specified elements that promote integration and alignment with the early learning and child care system and the elementary education system.
6. Also, SB 837 requires a school district or charter school offering transitional kindergarten to provide public notice of the availability of transitional kindergarten and to administer transitional kindergarten.
7. By requiring school districts and charter schools that offer kindergarten to offer transitional kindergarten, the SB 837 would impose a state-mandated local program.
8. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.
9. SB 837 would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.
10. SB 837 is currently awaiting a hearing in the Senate Education Committee.

### **Arguments in Support**

11. According to the author, “Recent Stanford research shows that by age 2, low-income children are six months behind in language development relative to their higher income peers. By age 5, low-income children are more than two years behind in language development. In California, too many children miss out on a critical developmental window of opportunity. Only half of California low-income preschool-aged children are served in State Preschool or Head Start, and only one-quarter of all children are eligible for the current transitional kindergarten program.”

### **Arguments in Opposition**

12. None on file at this time.

### **Supporting**

Early Edge California (sponsor)  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson (co-sponsor)

### **Opposing**

None on file at this time.