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August 8, 2016

The Honorable Miguel Santiago  
Assemblymember, District 53  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Assembly Bill 2150 (Santiago) – Support**

Dear Assemblymember Santiago:

On behalf of the California Women's Law Center (CWLC), I am writing in support of AB 2150, which would provide protections for families eligible for child care assistance.

Under current law, families may not receive child care assistance for more than 12-months without redetermination of eligibility, but there is no protection from repeated reporting or termination prior to 12 months. These repeated reporting requirements overwhelm families and the child care programs who constantly have to sign off on paperwork. Families struggle to keep up with unrealistic reporting timelines which can lead to termination of benefits and disruption of children's schooling.

AB 2150 would enact several measures that would protect these families. One would guarantee eligibility for child care for 12 months upon receiving a child care subsidy. Another would eliminate required interim reporting during the 12 month-eligibility period unless the family income exceeds the eligibility level or the initial certification is under seeking employment, in which case the family must report at 6 months. AB 2150 also will establish a graduated phase out that allows for moderate wage growth without the sudden withdrawal of support that can undermine a family's pathway to financial stability.

CWLC is dedicated to eliminating the barriers that keep women and girls in poverty. Since its founding in 1989, CWLC has worked to advance the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy, and education. An important part of our mission is to ensure that women and girls have access to resources that help them achieve security and success.

The California Women's Law Center strongly supports AB 2150, which would ensure more stability within the child care system, creating better outcomes for families.

Sincerely,



Betsy Butler  
Executive Director