



# ARCA Action Alert!

## 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 11<sup>th</sup> in the Senate (Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services, a.k.a. “Sub 3”), and on April 17<sup>th</sup> 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!*

<b>Senate - “Sub 3” April 11<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30am</b>	<b>Assembly - “Sub 1” April 17<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30pm</b>	
Senator Monning (chair) email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S3-SenM">http://tinyurl.com/S3-SenM</a> Phone: 916.651.4017	Assemblymember Mitchell (chair) Email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmM">http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmM</a> Phone: 916.319.2054	Assemblymember Mansoor Email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmMn">http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmMn</a> Phone: 916.319.2074
Senator Emmerson email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S3-SenE">http://tinyurl.com/S3-SenE</a> Phone: 916.651.4023	Assemblymember Chesbro Email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmC">http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmC</a> Phone: 916.319.2002	Consultant Nicole Vazquez email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S1-ConV">http://tinyurl.com/S1-ConV</a> Phone: 916.319.2099
Senator DeSaulnier email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S3-SenD">http://tinyurl.com/S3-SenD</a> Phone: 916.651.4007	Assemblymember Dickinson Email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmD">http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmD</a> Phone: 916.319.2007	Republican Sub 3 Consultant Kirk Feely Email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S3-RepK">http://tinyurl.com/S3-RepK</a>
Consultant Jennifer Troia email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S3-ConT">http://tinyurl.com/S3-ConT</a> Phone: 916.651.4103	Assemblymember Grove Email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmG">http://tinyurl.com/S1-AsmG</a> Phone: 916.319.2034	Republican Sub 1 Consultant Julie Souliere Email: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/S1-RepJ">http://tinyurl.com/S1-RepJ</a>

Since the Sub 3 meets on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and Sub 1 is on the 17<sup>th</sup>, your input matters most **now**. Please contact Sub 3 by noon on the 10<sup>th</sup>, and Sub 1 before the 16<sup>th</sup>! 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!

*Need more information? Want tips on how to format your letter? Wondering what the call will be like? Daniel at the ARCA office will be happy to help! Contact him at [dsavino@arcenet.org](mailto:dsavino@arcenet.org) or 916.446.7961.*