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# SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO



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## **A Resolution for Working Parents: Quality Child Care and Preschool for All**

**WHEREAS**, we believe that the children of the San Francisco Labor Council's working families are our future and, therefore, have a right to the highest quality education beginning with parental involvement, quality child care and access to preschool for all; and

**WHEREAS**, parental bonding is crucial to a child's development, infant care is the most expensive and least available form of child care, and parental leave would allow parents to stay home and bond with new born or newly-adopted infants; and

**WHEREAS**, by partnering with parents, who are their children's first teachers, quality child care and preschool programs prepare children to do their best by nurturing their social-emotional, cognitive, linguistic and physical development; enhancing their self confidence; and paving the way for a lifetime of learning; and

**WHEREAS**, parental involvement is important to a child's success in school and flexible work hours permit working parents to participate in school activities; and

**WHEREAS**, ensuring access to quality preschool for all 3- and 4- year olds whose parents choose to send them has proven to be one of the soundest educational and financial investments the public can make; and

**WHEREAS**, ensuring access to quality, affordable child care for all children age 0-5 and before and after school programs for school age children is essential for children's safety and development and for parents' ability to work; and

**WHEREAS**, preschool and child care programs should be funded adequately in order to assure quality education and to pay wages and provide benefits comparable to those in other K-12 systems; and be linked to full-day, affordable early care and education programs to meet the needs of working families;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the San Francisco Labor Council endorse and support legislative efforts towards parental leave for bonding, flexible working hours for parents, and more public funding for quality child care including current efforts to create a state-funded preschool system; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the San Francisco Labor Council work with its affiliates and other stakeholders to build support for a child care and a universal preschool system that works for working parents; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the San Francisco Labor Council make it clear to legislators that any plan for child care and universal preschool will succeed only with the commitment and adequate fiscal resources to ensure adequate professional salaries for the emerging preschool workforce, adequate funds for facilities and for the higher education needed to develop that workforce.

Submitted by Elaine Merriweather, UESF 61, and adopted unanimously by the San Francisco Labor Council on June 13, 2005.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Paulson", with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

Tim Paulson  
Executive Director

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