



February 18, 2025

Senator Megan Dahle
1021 O Street, Suite 7230
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 1086 – SPONSOR & SUPPORT

Dear Senator Dahle,

California Policy Center is proud to sponsor Senate Bill 1086 in an effort to provide a stable, predictable and common-sense local regulatory environment for the burgeoning microschool movement in California.

Microschooling is a relatively new K-12 schooling concept without a rigid definition. It is typically a temporary or long-term organization comprised of anywhere from a handful of students to over one hundred K-12 students, operating under a private school affidavit and taught by parents or one or more dedicated teachers/tutors. Each education model is highly individualized, flexible, and affordable. They can operate in various ways, including as state-recognized private schools or homeschooling collaboratives or pods, or as one-room schoolhouses, as it were. They are not managed by any public school district or entity.

Parents may use microschools and incorporate innovative educational approaches to address specific needs of one or more of their children who are unable to operate in a traditional public or charter school for a variety of reasons. However, those who wish to incorporate a microschool may have difficulty navigating inconsistent local land use regulations or other unnecessary barriers and incur excessive costs to the establishment and operation of a microschool.

Utah passed a similar measure with [Senate Bill 13 in 2024](#) which provided for definitions and regulatory certainty to avoid a hodge-podge of local zoning standards while prescribing a process for local agency ministerial approval of, and oversight over, microschools and micro-education entities related to traffic, parking, fire safety and health permits.

Recognizing that the state has a legitimate interest in ensuring that land use regulation does not operate as a de facto prohibition on lawful educational activity, SB 1086 can provide uniform, objective, and predictable land use standards for microschools and micro-education entities while preserving local authority over health and safety matters.

As noted by Kerry McDonald, one of the nation’s premier experts on education, “American education has changed dramatically over the past two years...There is now a significant



opportunity to enact state-level policies that support education entrepreneurship and encourage the emergence of more innovative K–12 learning models.”

This proposal allows parents to seek the best academic options for their child without the struggle of navigating unnecessary regulations. For these reasons, we offer our full and unconditional support.

Sincerely,

Lance Christensen
Vice President of Education Policy & Government Affairs