

119th Congress – Building Child Care for a Better Future Act

REPRESENTATIVES DANNY K. DAVIS (D-IL), SUZANNE BONAMICI (D-OR), GWEN MOORE (D-WI), STACEY PLASKETT (D-VI), & STEVEN HORSFORD (D-NV)

Summary

The need to rebuild a stronger, more robust and equitable child care system is essential now as working families across America struggle to access affordable, quality child care. This bill addresses the child care gap by providing new, permanent funding so that states, tribes, and territories have the critical resources they need to develop a child care infrastructure that better serves all families.

Expands Mandatory Child Care Funding

- Increases annual funding for the Child Care Entitlement to States (CCES) to \$20 billion per year (\$16.45 billion increase per year).
- Increases the amount of CCES funds reserved for Indian tribes and tribal organizations to 5% of funds.
- Increases the amount of CCES funds reserved for territories to 4% of funds.
- Reserves funds for technical assistance and evaluation.

Provides Grants to Improve Child Care Workforce, Supply, Quality, and Access

- Appropriates \$5 billion to the CCES annually to provide grants to improve child care workforce, supply, quality, and access in areas of particular need without matching requirements.
- Requires to access funds that states, DC, tribes, tribal organizations, and territories identify in Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG) plans areas in particular need for child care, describe how will improve workforce, supply, quality, and access of child care in needed areas, and describe how community members will be consulted to identify community-specific needs.
- Funding can be used for CCDBG purposes including:
 - Increasing child care slots in child care facilities and family child care homes;
 - Establishing/expanding operation of community/neighborhood family child care networks;
 - Providing funding for construction and renovation of child care facilities and family child care homes with requirement of prevailing wages for large construction projects;
 - Providing start-up funding, technical assistance, support for improving business practices, and support navigating real estate financing and development processes;
 - Providing guidance to providers on landlord negotiating or applying to own land/home;
 - Recruiting child care providers and staff;
 - Supporting professional development and training for the child care workforce, including through apprenticeships, partnerships with labor unions or labor-management partnerships, and partnerships with public and nonprofit institutions of higher education;
 - Maintaining an effective and diverse early care workforce by increasing total compensation, providing wage supplements or bonuses, or offering wage and retention rewards and ensuring adequate wages for staff of child care providers, including sole proprietors and independent contractors, that - at a minimum - provide a living wage for all child care provider staff and adjust wages on annual basis or via cost of living increases to staff; and
 - Contracting for technical support with an intermediary with experience securing private sources of capital financing for child care facilities or other low-income community development projects.

To cosponsor the bill, please contact Jill Hunter-Williams (Davis; jill.hunter-williams@mail.house.gov) or Emily Hopkins (Bonamici; Emily.hopkins@mail.house.gov).

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING BUILDING CHILD CARE FOR A BETTER FUTURE ACT

- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
- American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
- American Federation of Teachers
- Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy
- Caring Across Generations
- Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
- Child Care Aware of America
- Child Care for Every Family Network
- Communications Workers of America (CWA)
- Community Change Action
- Democratic Women's Caucus House of Representatives
- Early Care & Education Consortium (ECEC)
- Family Forward Oregon
- Family Values at Work
- First Children's Finance
- First Five Years Fund
- First Focus Campaign for Children
- Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children
- KinderCare
- Little Miracles Early Development Center
- Maine Association for the Education of Young Children
- Maine People's Alliance
- Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children (MDAEYC)
- Massachusetts Association for the Education of Young Children (MAAEYC)
- MomsRising
- Montana Family Childcare Network
- National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- National Education Association
- National Indian Child Care Association (NICCA)
- National Women's Law Center
- New Jersey Association for the Education of Young Children
- NJ Communities United
- OAEYC, Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children, ORAEYC,
- Our Children Oregon
- Parent Voices
- Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children
- Pennsylvania Child Care Association
- Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children
- Prevent Child Abuse America
- Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children
- Save the Children
- SEIU
- South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC)
- Southwest Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children
- Small Business Majority
- Trying Together
- Virginia Association for the Education of Young Children
- Virginia Organizing
- Wisconsin Early Childhood Association
- ZERO TO THREE