

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 30, 2023

The Honorable Shalanda Young
Director
Office of Management and Budget
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20504

Dear Director Young,

We commend the Biden Administration for its historic work to advance child care and early learning, including through its commitment in prior budgets and the American Families Plan. As you finalize the budget for fiscal year (FY) 2024, we respectfully urge you to include child care and early learning investments of no less than the level in the House-passed *Build Back Better Act* – \$390 billion over six years – in the FY 2024 budget.

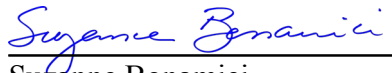
The President's commitment to "make the largest investment in child care in the nation's history," including proposing \$425 billion over ten years in his American Families Plan, resonated with millions of Americans and with members of Congress. Although the bold vision we arrived at in the Build Back Better Act was not passed in the Senate, there remains substantial public momentum to address the child care crisis that is preventing families from finding or affording the care and education that they and their young children need.

Even though House and Senate Democrats recently secured a critical funding increase, significant gaps remain to adequately meet the needs of children and families. Data from previous years show that only one in nine eligible young children receive child care assistance. Increasing funding would help reach families most in need, expand support for the child care and early learning workforce, and increase child care supply.

Investments in high-quality child care and Head Start are among the most fiscally responsible investments we can make, improving children's long-term outcomes and strengthening our economy. House Democrats were proud to vote for the child care relief provided through the American Rescue Plan (ARPA), which has been essential in preventing the sector from total collapse and vital to our economic recovery. Although crucial, these ARPA stabilization funds are temporary and do not diminish the need for increased and sustained child care funding to address long-standing challenges, including a decline in child care providers, rising costs, and inadequate availability of subsidies to meet the needs of eligible children and families. For these reasons, we again urge you to include the highest level of funding possible for child care and early learning, and no less than \$390 billion - the level in the House-passed *Build Back Better Act*.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We appreciate your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with you to continue to improve our nation's child care sector.


Sincerely,



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



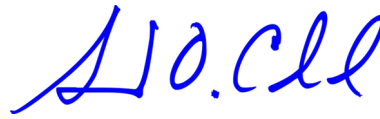
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



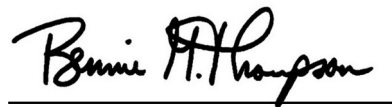
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



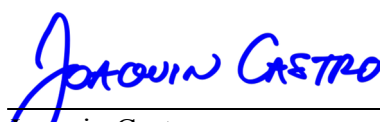
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



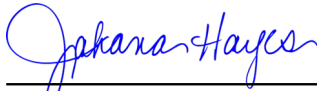
Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.
Member of Congress

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Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



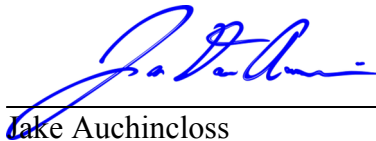
Lori Trahan
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Marc A. Veasey
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Lake Auchincloss
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Rashida Tlaib
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Jim Tokuda
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Emanuel Cleaver, II
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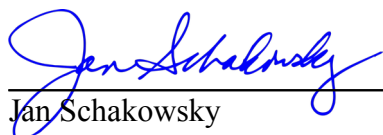
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



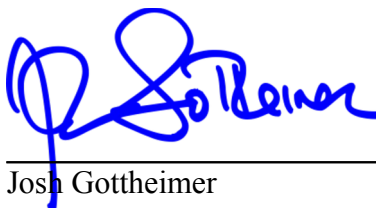
Raúl M. Grijalva
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Josh Gottheimer
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James P. McGovern
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Nikema Williams
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Ayanna Pressley
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Lisa Blunt Rochester
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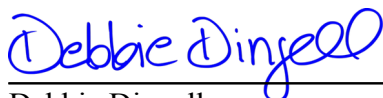
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids
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Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
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Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
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Barbara Lee
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Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



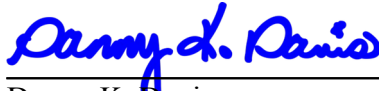
Teresa Leger Fernández
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Grace Meng
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Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



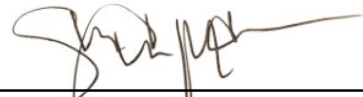
Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



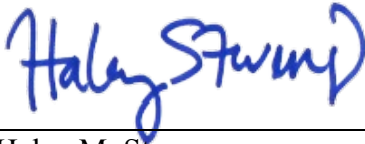
Susan Wild
Member of Congress



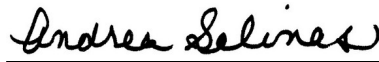
Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



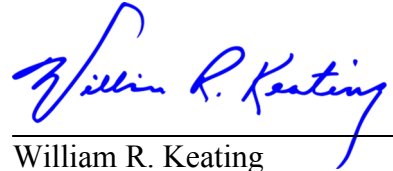
Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
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Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



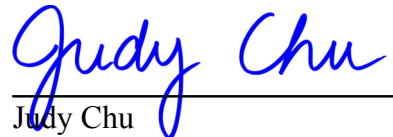
William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Cori Bush
Member of Congress



Troy Carter
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



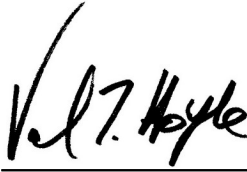
Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



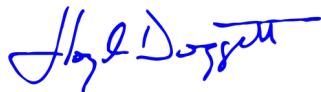
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



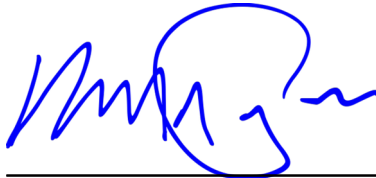
Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



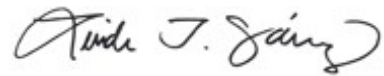
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



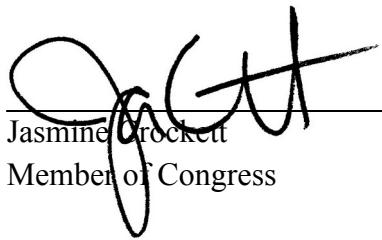
Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress