



CHILD CARE & EARLY LEARNING

GOVERNORS' 2016 STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESSES: MENTIONS OF EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

This year, a total of 23 governors (12 Democrats and 11 Republicans) mentioned early care and education in their State of the State addresses. This reflects a widespread awareness of the importance of early care and education in giving children the strong foundation they need to succeed in school and life, and parents the support they need to work, provide for their families, and contribute to the economy. Several governors offered specific proposals focused on increasing access to high-quality early learning opportunities. For example, Alabama Governor Robert Bentley proposed to double funding for the state prekindergarten program in the coming year, with a goal of making prekindergarten available to all four-year-olds by 2019. Georgia Governor Nathan Deal proposed \$26.2 million in new funding to increase prekindergarten teachers' salaries, with an additional \$7.9 million for a 3 percent merit pay increase. New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez proposed \$5 million for new prekindergarten classrooms. Missouri Governor Jay Nixon proposed to expand support for child care assistance to help make child care more affordable for low-income families.

The excerpts from the speeches related to early care and education, along with links to the complete speeches, are provided below. (Seven states do not have State of the State addresses this year.)

Alabama: Governor Robert Bentley (R)

<http://governor.alabama.gov/newsroom/2016/02/2016-state-state-address-2>

February 2, 2016

We are a people who will not be content to see a neighbor in need and not offer an opportunity for help. Where there is urgency, we respond. Where there is a challenge, we accept. Where there is threat, we protect. Where there is scarcity, we provide. And where there is need, we create opportunity. When all children need access to a quality early education, we give them that chance.

...Alabama's First Class Voluntary Pre-K program is a shining star of success in Alabama. Through the Office of School Readiness, Alabama's First Class Pre-K is consistently ranked among the best in the nation and serves as a model for other states. We are working to give young children a new, strong foundation with the opportunity for a good education in a voluntary pre-k program. Children who attend pre-k are more likely to read at grade level quicker, their math scores are higher, and they are less likely to need special education services. We know this program works, we've seen the statistics, but more importantly we've seen the results in the lives of our students.

I'd like for you to meet one of our students. Miracle Scott is a Senior at Eufaula High School where she is in the National Honor Society and a varsity cheerleader. She has been accepted to, and will attend, Auburn University this fall. Twelve years ago, as a four-year-old, Miracle was given a great opportunity when she was enrolled in one of our earliest Alabama First Class Pre-K programs. Today Miracle is an outstanding student, and able to get a good college education. I am proud of our First Class Pre-K, and Miracle I am proud of you.



Every four-year-old in Alabama should have the same opportunity Miracle has had. **That is why in this year's balanced budget I will present, we are doubling the amount of funding for the First Class Pre-K program. By the year 2019, we will be able to tell every parent in Alabama, there is a pre-k classroom available for your child.**

Alaska: Governor Bill Walker (I)

<http://gov.alaska.gov/newsroom/2016/01/bold-steps-new-beginnings-alaskans-pulling-together/>

January 21, 2016

No reference

Arizona: Governor Doug Ducey (R)

<http://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2016/01/arizona-state-state-address>

January 11, 2016

No reference

Arkansas: Governor Asa Hutchinson (R)

No State of the State Address

California: Governor Edmund G. Brown (D)

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=19280>

January 21, 2016

...if you add up the deficits and surpluses between 2000 and 2016, you find that the total deficits were seven times as large as the surpluses, resulting in painful and unplanned-for cuts. Schools, child care, courts, social services, and other vital state programs were deeply affected. So too were our universities which had to reduce classes and double tuition. I don't want to make those mistakes again.

In the face of...growing inequality, California has not been passive. We have enacted or expanded many programs to counteract these powerful trends... **We have added back hundreds of millions of dollars to our CalWORKs, foster care and child care programs...**

Colorado: Governor John Hickenlooper (D)

<https://www.colorado.gov/governor/news/gov-hickenlooper-delivers-annual-state-state-address>

January 14, 2016

No reference

Connecticut: Governor Dannel P. Malloy (D)

http://portal.ct.gov/Departments_and_Agencies/Office_of_the_Governor/Press_Room/Speeches/Governor_Dannel_P_Malloy_s_2016_State_of_the_State_Address/

February 3, 2016

No reference

Delaware: Governor Jack Markell (D)

<http://governor.delaware.gov/speeches/2016StateOfTheState/index.shtml>

January 21, 2016



As much as any other state, Delaware has committed to our youngest learners. In 2011, only 5 percent of low-income kids attended the most highly rated programs. Today, we've increased that number to 59 percent.

Given the scientific evidence about the critical brain development that occurs in their first few years, that means thousands of Delaware children will have better opportunities to succeed at every stage of life.

But **we shouldn't be satisfied until every child has access to one of these programs. I ask the General Assembly to support my budget request to give more low-income children access to high-quality early learning programs, well-educated teachers, and a healthy start.**

Florida: Governor Rick Scott (R)

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/politics/political-pulse/os-rick-scotts-state-of-the-state-speech-20160112-post.html>
January 12, 2016

No reference

Georgia: Governor Nathan Deal (R)

<http://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2016-01-13/deal-%E2%80%98ocean-opportunity-lies-ahead-georgia%E2%80%99s-ship-state>
January 13, 2016

I appointed the Education Reform Commission last January and tasked them with examining our entire education system and reporting back to me and the General Assembly with bold recommendations as to how we could better prepare our students for the 21st century.

...Because of the magnitude of the recommendations contained in the report, some statutory changes will be necessary to implement them fully. Other recommendations can be achieved through the budgetary process. As an example, **my proposed budget provides funds to implement a new compensation model for our pre-k programs in order to retain lead teachers, increase assistant teacher salaries, and maintain classroom quality. The pre-k budget recommendation is in excess of \$358 million, which includes \$26.2 million for salary increases and an additional \$7.9 million for a 3 percent merit pay increase.**

Hawaii: Governor David Y. Ige (D)

<http://governor.hawaii.gov/newsroom/governors-office-news-release-governor-iges-state-of-the-state-address/>
January 25, 2016

No reference

Idaho: Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter (R)

http://www.gov.idaho.gov/mediacenter/speeches/sp_2016/SOS_FY2017.pdf
January 11, 2016

No reference

Illinois: Governor Bruce Rauner (R)

<http://www3.illinois.gov/PressReleases/ShowPressRelease.cfm?SubjectID=2&RecNum=13470>
January 27, 2016

The key to rising family incomes, more high-paying jobs, and a better life for everyone in Illinois, is to have a high-quality, fully integrated education system from cradle to career, from early education, to K-12 public schools, to outstanding community colleges and universities, all the way to coordinated job training and technical training later in life.



...We have ten long-term goals. This legislative session we will begin to:

... 2. **Provide proper funding for early childhood education while setting rigorous benchmarks for program performance**, so we can continue to be national leaders in this important work.

... 9. Consolidate the majority of our councils and task forces under the P20 and Early Learning Councils, in order to decrease bureaucracy, increase high-quality outcomes for our learners, and improve the coordination of these working groups.

10. Create a Cabinet on Children and Youth so we can better align our health and human services with our cradle-to-career education initiatives, in order to provide higher-quality, fully integrated services for our young people.

Indiana: Governor Mike Pence (R)

<http://www.in.gov/gov/2016stateofstate.htm>

January 12, 2016

Hoosiers deserve to know this General Assembly passed the largest increase in K-12 education funding in Indiana history. And, with nearly \$50 million in new funding, Indiana has become the first state in America to make career and vocational education a priority in every high school again.

We increased bonuses for hardworking teachers, **launched the first-ever statewide pre-k program—opening doors of opportunity for disadvantaged kids...**

Iowa: Governor Terry E. Branstad (R)

<https://governor.iowa.gov/2016/01/gov-branstad-delivers-the-2016-condition-of-the-state-address-to-the-iowa-general-assembly>

January 12, 2016

This budget provides schools the stability, predictability, and funding they need and deserve. **Today, I am proposing to increase Pre-K-12 funding by over \$145 million.** This includes the third installment of our extraordinary commitment to teacher leadership and compensation. This additional investment would bring total Pre-K-12 education spending in the state budget to over \$3.2 billion dollars. To make this level of funding possible, we have made tough decisions in other budget areas.

Kansas: Governor Sam Brownback (R)

<http://www.governor.ks.gov/media-room/media-releases/2016/01/13/2016-state-of-the-state---january-12-2016>

January 12, 2016

No reference

Kentucky: Governor Matt Bevin (R)

<https://www.ket.org/content/uploads/2016/01/Gov.-Matt-Bevin-2016-SOTC-Budget-Address-Transcript-01.26.16.pdf>

January 26, 2016

We talked a lot about investing in education and workforce development. That looks like several things. We've got to create more jobs. We've got to be able to fill those jobs when they exist. We have thousands of skilled jobs in this state that people are desperate to fill. We've got to address that and it's going to look like several things. **It starts frankly at the elementary...preschool, elementary, and secondary levels.**



Louisiana: Governor John Bel Edwards (R)

<http://gov.louisiana.gov/news/2016-state-of-the-state-address>
March 14, 2016

No reference

Maine: Governor Paul Le Page (R)

<http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/attach.php?id=669201&an=1>
February 8, 2016 (*Delivered in writing*)

No reference

Maryland: Governor Larry Hogan (R)

<http://governor.maryland.gov/2016/02/03/2016-state-of-the-state-address/>
February 3, 2016

No reference

Massachusetts: Governor Charlie Baker (R)

<http://www.mass.gov/governor/press-office/press-releases/fy2016/gov-baker-delivers-state-of-the-commonwealth-address.html>
January 21, 2016

No reference

Michigan: Governor Rick Snyder (R)

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/2016_Michigan_State_of_the_State_Transcript_511676_7.pdf
January 19, 2016

Every Michigan child deserves an education that launches them into a successful career path and life. The best careers in the modern economy require training with accessed programs that gives them the skills and experience necessary to prepare them for college, career, and for life. We've made progress. We've made some good reforms. We've added tougher academics standards without federal mandates. We've talked about teacher effectiveness. **We're a national leader in funding preschool.** We've created the early literacy programs, in terms of Pre-3 reading...

Minnesota: Governor Mark Dayton (D)

<http://archive.leg.state.mn.us/docs/2016/other/160350.pdf>
March 9, 2016

...if we stop working together, we stop making progress. When we slacken our efforts, pause, or take a break, we fall behind. ...We stopped making the investments of other states in **early childhood care and education**, providing all-day kindergarten over a decade behind other states, still debating voluntary prekindergarten, and then wondering why we haven't eliminated the achievement gap. It's pretty straightforward. We succeed when we do what we have to do to be successful. We fail when we stop. That is why we can't stop now. There is still so much that we must do. So many challenges and opportunities that, if we face them and seize this moment, will propel our state farther ahead.

...I support tax reductions for middle-income Minnesotans. **My supplemental budget will again propose increasing the child care tax credit.** The average cost of child care for Minnesota families is one of the highest in the nation. I will also support federal tax conformities, which will further reduce state income taxes for many Minnesotans.



...as recently as 1999 and 2000, Minnesota's then-governor and legislature tried the experiment of cutting the state's personal income tax rates and providing tax refunds. Twice. And what was the result over the following decade? Did Minnesota's economy surge ahead of other states? No. Was there a demonstrable increase in private investment? No. Did Minnesotans' standards of living improve? No. Even before the Great Recession, Minnesota's growth was not on par with many others. Meanwhile, the state stopped improving critical functions... School upkeep and improvements lagged. The state avoided facing and funding its growing responsibilities for **child care assistance**, for mental health services, and for elderly care. Growing problems at St. Peter and Anoka state hospitals continued to fester and plague us still. Then, when the Great Recession arrived, with revenue depleted and fiscal reserves non-existent, the state's economic woes compounded, and its services were further decimated.

So, what astounds me is: Why on earth would we want to go back and try that again? We haven't made such progress during the past five years by having state government do less or fund less than others are doing. We've done more for Minnesota and we've done it better. All-day kindergarten. Flood control and disaster relief. Response to the Avian Flu epidemic. And to Ebola. An increased minimum wage. The equal right to marry. **Early childhood education**. Two-year tuition freezes at the U and MnSCU. Statewide property tax relief. And more. What we have been doing is working. Minnesotans are working. Minnesota is working. How could we stop now, when there is more work left to do?

...unfortunately, more children from more Minnesota families start school without the education and socialization experiences most other children enjoy. They enter kindergarten or early elementary grades already behind, and they struggle to catch up. We have finally learned what many child development experts have been telling us for decades: the very first years of a child's life are deeply formative and determinative. If we don't prevent achievement gaps before they appear, or close them quickly thereafter, they will require much more difficult and more expensive remedial efforts for years following. Increased legislative support for early childhood care and education has grown significantly over the past five years. And I thank you for that. Yet the numbers of children, who desperately need those services, continue to rise. **Next week I will propose further initiatives to help provide more children with the decent life beginnings that every child deserves.** There are disagreements over how and where to best provide those services, particularly for four-year-olds. Some of those disagreements are professional; others are political. Sixty-thousand Minnesota four-year-olds need Minnesota's grown-ups to go beyond their big self-interests and place those little interests first.

Mississippi: Governor Phil Bryant (R)

<http://www.clarionledger.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/26/bryant-state-address/79365108/>
January 26, 2016

No reference

Missouri: Governor Jay Nixon (D)

<http://governor.mo.gov/news/speeches/2016-state-state-address>
January 20, 2016

Another way we can continue to strengthen our economy is by strengthening Missouri families. Finding good, affordable child care is a challenge for every working family in America—and especially those with low incomes. That's why **my budget makes child care more affordable for 20,000 low-income working families, reducing their out-of-pocket costs.**

And this year, we are going to expand family-friendly policies like parental leave for state employees. It's good for kids, it's good for families—and it's good for our state. We need to strengthen all families.

...And for the first time, we'll be funding early childhood education through the foundation [school funding] formula, **giving more than 2,500 kids access to high-quality preschool this year.**



Montana: Governor Steve Bullock (D)

No State of the State Address

Nebraska: Governor Pete Ricketts (R)

<https://governor.nebraska.gov/press/governor-ricketts-state-state-address>

January 14, 2016

Together **we addressed the cliff effect for child care** with Senator Tanya Cook's bill.

...We are working to ensure a new level of transparency and accountability for taxpayers. Our people are dedicated to giving vulnerable individuals the best possible experience in receiving assistance and creating a more customer-centric organization. One example is ACCESSNebraska that serves our fellow Nebraskans who need our help—from nutrition, to child care, to assistance with energy bills. As I traveled the state, I used to hear a lot of complaints about ACCESSNebraska. The average call wait time in August 2014 was almost 24 minutes. Now, because of process improvements, the average wait time for the last three months is under five minutes.

Nevada: Governor Brian Sandoval (R)

No State of the State Address

New Hampshire: Governor Maggie Hassan (D)

<http://governor.nh.gov/media/speeches/state-of-state-2016.htm>

February 4, 2016

A strong workforce begins with a strong education at all levels—from early childhood, to our K-12 system, to higher education.

...It's...critical that we continue to focus on early childhood education, which is a fundamental aspect of long-term success. Spark New Hampshire has outlined a framework to ensure that our state's children have the opportunity that they deserve to live healthy lives, receive a high-quality education, and experience economic stability at home. And to build on those efforts, we must also continue working to make full-day kindergarten a reality statewide.

...while businesses need workers, they are often reluctant to risk the investment of time and money that comes from hiring someone who may require additional training or who lacks reliable access to child care and transportation. We will help overcome such obstacles for workers and businesses by providing employers with job-training grants and salary support for eligible workers for six weeks. This will help ensure that workers can get a fair shot at a new career, while providing businesses with the workforce that they need to grow and thrive.

...we also know that there are individuals who face significant barriers to joining the workforce. Goodwill of Northern New England and Families in Transition have begun a pilot project in Manchester to help individuals served by the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program overcome barriers and enter the workforce. We will partner with these non-profits and other organizations willing to address this challenge through efforts such as increasing case management, **eliminating child care copays for TANF clients, and expanding in-home visitation to work with more at-risk parents.** Each of these steps will help these individuals enter and stay in the workforce.

New Jersey: Governor Chris Christie (R)

<http://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/addresses/2010s/approved/20160112.html>

January 12, 2016

No reference



New Mexico: Governor Susana Martinaz (R)

http://www.governor.state.nm.us/uploads/PressRelease/191a415014634aa89604e0b4790e4768/Governor_Susana_Martinez_Delivers_State_of_the_State_Address_2016.pdf
January 19, 2016

I was a prosecutor for 25 years. I saw so many 15-, 16-, even 20-year-olds who could not read, had little hope that they would ever find work, faced more challenges than opportunities in life, dropped out of school at some point, and turned to crime. You see, if we don't get this part right—if our kids don't learn to read, if we cannot graduate our students with basic knowledge and life skills—the ripple effects in their lives, in their children's lives, and in society are potentially enormous. No child is un-teachable. I will never give up on any kid. Every child can learn.

Our reform agenda is clear. First, every child needs to read at an early age, so they can learn every year thereafter. Under my plan, to give our kids the best start possible, **we'll expand pre-k—which has tripled so far on my watch—and build \$5 million worth of new pre-k classrooms throughout the state.** And we'll add \$10 million in new reading interventions, specifically for students in chronically struggling schools.

New York: Governor Andrew Cuomo (D)

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/video-transcript-built-lead-governor-cuomos-2016-state-state-and-budget-address>
January 13, 2016

Hubert Humphry said, and I quote, “The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy and the disabled.”

This state was one of the first in the nation to start universal pre-k in 1966, believe it or not. Over 60 percent of our communities now participate. We must work to bring that number to 100 percent in our communities. **In 2013, this legislature took the next step by expanding to full-day pre-k, offering to local governments across the state including New York City. I propose \$800 million in total funding so we can once again partner with our local communities and once again pay 100 percent of the cost** because our children deserve the best.

...Life is such a precious gift and I have kicked myself every day that I didn't spend more time with my father at that end period. I could have. I am lucky. I could have taken off work, I could have cut days in half, I could have spent more time with him. It was my mistake and a mistake I blame myself for every day. But there are many people in this state who do not have the choice. A parent is dying, a child is sick, they can't take off of work. Their employer says, if you don't come you are fired, if you don't come you don't get paid. People have children and mothers run the risk of losing their job if they stay home with their child. Out of 185 countries, the United States is one of just three that does not have paid maternity leave. The others are Surinam and Papua New Guinea. This is not where New York should be. **We should have a paid leave program, paid for by employees, who can get 12 weeks of pay.** And Senator Jeff Klein is exactly right. At the end of the day, family matters. Intimate relationships matter. And in this 24/7 world let this state make a statement of what is really important and those relationships are important. We should be there, one for another, especially in a family environment. Let's pass family leave this session.

North Carolina: Governor Pat McCrory (R)

No State of the State Address

North Dakota: Governor Jack Dalrymple (R)

No State of the State Address



Ohio: Governor John Kasich (R)

<http://www.governor.ohio.gov/MediaRoom/PressReleases/TabId/200/ArticleId/383/language/en-US/2016-state-of-the-state-transcript4-6-16.aspx>

April 6, 2016

In the schools, thanks to our work together, children have new opportunities to succeed, from the earliest age, we take care of them. **By the end of 2017, Ohio will be helping three times more young children have access to early childhood instruction than just six years ago.** And, we're making sure that all early childhood education is of high quality, so children can start school ready to learn. It's expensive, but it is a high priority for us—early childhood.

...we're also eliminating unintended barriers in Ohio's safety net that once discouraged working moms from moving up, now by making it easier for them to keep their support for child care. Even after they get a promotion or a better job, we show them that hard work truly pays off.

Oklahoma: Governor Mary Fallin (R)

<https://www.ok.gov/governor/documents/2-1-16%20State%20of%20the%20State%20Address.pdf>

February 1, 2016

No reference

Oregon: Governor Kate Brown (D)

No State of the State Address

Pennsylvania: Governor Tom Wolf (D)

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/governor-wolfs-2016-2017-budget-address/>

February 9, 2016

Usually, this speech is an opportunity to lay out an ambitious agenda for the year ahead. Under ordinary circumstances, I would outline my 2016-17 budget proposal, a proposal full of ideas to move our Commonwealth forward. I would talk about **new measures I'm proposing to ensure that every child in Pennsylvania has a world-class education that starts before kindergarten** and goes all the way through college... But I can't give that speech. Not under these circumstances.

My fellow Pennsylvanians: Our Commonwealth is in crisis. A crisis that threatens our future... Pennsylvania now faces a \$2 billion budget deficit. ...If the General Assembly does not approve a responsible plan to solve this crisis, every Pennsylvanian will suffer the consequences. Those consequences will be real. They will be immediate. They will be severe.

...tens of thousands of Pennsylvania children will lose access to prekindergarten, depriving them of early childhood education that we know is key to their future success.

...We will lose \$40 million in state funding for child care, and thus forfeit nearly \$50 million in federal matching funds, for a total cut of nearly \$90 million. Hundreds of thousands of working parents are counting on our help to have some peace of mind and the ability to earn the living upon which they raise their families. But if we don't have a budget, 211,000 Pennsylvania children will have nowhere to go.

...when I took office last year, I proposed a different kind of budget. Instead of shortchanging our schools, I proposed a historic commitment to education—beginning to restore the \$1 billion that had been cut from our schools under the previous administration, making **new investments in early childhood education** and community colleges, increasing our state's share of funding for public schools, and directing more of that funding to districts that needed it the most.



Rhode Island: Governor Gina Raimondo (D)

http://www.governor.ri.gov/newsroom/speeches/2015/Budget_Address.php

February 2, 2016

Now, if we are going to have the best pipeline of skilled workers in America, we have to do much more to improve our public schools. Thanks to Senate President Paiva Weed's leadership, **last year we expanded the number of pre-k classrooms and made all-day kindergarten universal across Rhode Island.**

South Carolina: Governor Nikki Haley (R)

<http://www.governor.sc.gov/Documents/state-of-the-state.pdf>

January 20, 2016

No reference

South Dakota: Governor Dennis Daugaard (R)

<http://sd.gov/governor/docs/2016%20State%20of%20the%20State.pdf>

January 12, 2016

No reference

Tennessee: Governor Bill Haslam (R)

https://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/governor/attachments/2016_State_of_the_State.pdf

February 1, 2016

No reference

Texas: Governor Greg Abbott (D)

No State of the State Address

Utah: Governor Gary Herbert (R)

<http://www.utah.gov/governor/docs/stateofstate/2016StateoftheStateAddress.pdf>

January 27, 2016

No reference

Vermont: Governor Peter Shumlin (D)

<http://governor.vermont.gov/node/2597>

January 7, 2016

By expanding the number of kids earning college credit for free while still in high school and becoming **the only state to guarantee every three- and four-year-old access to high-quality pre-k**, we have taken Vermont's good education system and made it better.

Kate Lamb is a single mother working in Johnson raising her four-year-old daughter. Like most working parents, finding quality, affordable child care has been a critical issue. Thanks to our expansion of pre-k programs across the state, Kate's daycare in Lamoille—Mud City—was able to offer Kate and her daughter exactly what they needed. Thank you Kate for joining us today.



Virginia: Governor Terry McAuliffe (D)

<https://governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/newsarticle?articleId=13920>

January 13, 2016

Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam and his team worked closely with us to win a **\$17.5 million dollar annual grant from the U.S. Department of Education to provide high-quality prekindergarten classes for 13,000 children.**

Washington: Governor Jay Inslee (D)

<http://www.governor.wa.gov/news-media/news-media/speeches/2016-state-state>

January 12, 2016

Speaking of investments, let's talk about the most important investment we know we can make, and that's in our children. Last year we put an additional \$2.3 billion in early learning, K-12, and higher education funding in the budget on a bipartisan basis. Since 2013, education funding increased by 35 percent.

...We have more work to do, and I'll talk about that in a moment. But we have taken major steps that will have major impacts for our kids. **We've given nearly 7,000 more children access to high-quality early learning over the past three years.** We've provided funding for every child to have all-day kindergarten. This and early learning were some of my highest priorities because they are critical educational opportunities that come along only once for each child. Of all the things we do, I believe this will have the most impact in our communities and do the most to close the opportunity gap

West Virginia: Governor Earl Ray Tomblin (D)

<http://www.governor.wv.gov/media/pressreleases/2016/Documents/WEBSITE%20COPY.pdf>

January 13, 2016

In 2010, we started down a path to improve our state's public education system. Instead of allowing paperwork to drive education, we refocused our efforts to provide our children with the skills they need to compete in today's global economy. Since then, **we've expanded early childhood education to help our youngest students build a foundation for a lifetime of learning.** We're engaging middle school and high school students with hands-on training programs.

Wisconsin: Governor Scott Walker (R)

<http://walker.wi.gov/newsroom/speech/governor-scott-walkers-2016-state-state-address>

January 19, 2016

No reference

Wyoming: Governor Matt Mead (R)

<http://governor.wyo.gov/documents/state-of-the-state>

February 8, 2016

...the citizens will not judge our actions based upon our definitions, but how we spend their money or cut their services... So where are we? Judicial branch has been cut. Some executive agencies have been cut into the double digits. My recommendations for highway, local government, tourism, ag, early childhood development, education, senior centers, literacy, have been reduced... **So what are our priorities? Do we fund a new state office building in Casper and not fully fund early childhood development?**

