



CHILD CARE & EARLY LEARNING

GOVERNORS' 2017 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. These governors recognize that early care and education is critical to the success of their states because it gives children the strong start they need to succeed and allows parents to work and contribute productively to the economy. A few governors offered specific proposals to help families access high-quality child care and early education. For example, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb proposed to double annual funding for the state prekindergarten program. Montana Governor Steve Bullock proposed to provide grants to public and private providers to expand preschool for four-year-olds in low-income families. North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper proposed to create enough additional slots in the state-funded prekindergarten program to eliminate the waiting list. Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf proposed to provide \$75 million in new funding to expand high-quality early care and education, and Vermont Governor Phil Scott proposed to provide \$9.6 million in new funding for child care and prekindergarten. While these proposals are laudable, we will need even more governors supporting even greater investments to address the significant unmet need for affordable, high-quality child care and early education.

Below are speech excerpts related to early care and education, along with links to each governor's complete State of the State Address (or, if the governor did not deliver a State of the State Address this year, his or her Inaugural Address or Budget Address.)

Alabama: Governor Robert Bentley (R)

http://www.al.com/news/birmingham/index.ssf/2017/02/here_is_the_full_text_of_gov_b.html

February 7, 2017

Opportunity is not out of reach for our children, we just have to make sure we as leaders provide them. We have the greatest ability to do that through what is an absolute jewel in our state. Alabama's First Class High Quality Pre-K is a proven success.

Each year since I've been governor we have steadily increased funding for pre-K, we've expanded classrooms and most importantly we've opened the door to achievement for Alabama's children.

There is no denying the positive results of children who attend a First Class Pre-K. Four-year-olds are building on a firm foundation, demonstrating higher achievement at higher grade levels. We've seen the results. In study after study, a four-year-old enrolled in one of our high-quality First Class Pre-K programs misses fewer school days, they are much less likely to be retained, or held back, in higher grades and most importantly they are ready for kindergarten. We studied four-year-olds when they first enrolled in pre-K and again when they completed their year. We found that students at the beginning of the year scored below "widely held expectations" for school readiness. By the time they completed pre-K, over 90 percent were meeting or exceeding the expectations across the board.



These children were more than ready to start school. That is why by the third grade, we've found pre-K children, especially those from low-income families, are scoring well in critical areas of math and reading. These findings show us what we already know, that First Class Pre-K supports a strong foundation for school success and school readiness—and most importantly for our state, our families, and our future success of our children—it is closing the achievement gap for our most vulnerable children. And that's why for the last 10 years Alabama's First Class Pre-K has been awarded the highest quality rating by the National Institute for Early Education Research.

Why then would we just stop with four-year-olds? Why don't we look beyond the undeniable success of what we can do with our four-year-olds and expand on that success where it's most needed? Why then when Alabama third graders fall woefully far behind in reading scores, when as our Superintendent said, we have a "math crisis" in Alabama, would we not want to extend the gains we are making with the four-year-olds up to elementary school?

The Alabama Pre-K through Third Grade Integrated Approach to Early Learning will build upon the student success and achievement gap closure by expanding access to the pre-K model and will pull the most successful parts of K-3 initiatives to give students up to third grade the chance for success using the pre-K model. Jeana Ross, Secretary of the Department of Early Childhood Education, and State Superintendent Michael Sentance are joining forces and working side by side to align and integrate the most critical and most successful components of the pre-K model with how we educate those in kindergarten up to the third grade. We know based on the success of pre-K the result will be higher achievement, but most importantly children who can read, who can compete, and who have a strong foundation.

Once again this year we are expanding the reach of pre-K so that even more four-year-olds have an opportunity for a new strong foundation, with a \$20 million increase to fund 160 more pre-K classrooms. Over 2,800 more children will have access to a First Class High Quality Pre-K classroom. Pre-K is truly an Alabama success story, our four-year-olds are thriving, and we are ranked number one in America. Not only is it transforming how students learn, it's transforming how educators teach. I hear from pre-K teachers across the state who tell me they are amazed with the results they see among their students, they are excelling, they are thriving. And they tell me it makes them better teachers. The success of our pre-K program wouldn't be even possible without the strong team of pre-K teachers, dedicated to our children.

...If we can win football championships, we can make sure there is a number one ranked pre-K classroom for every four-year-old.

Alaska: Governor Bill Walker (I)

<http://gov.alaska.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/Governor-Walker-State-of-the-State-January-18-2017.pdf>

January 18, 2017

No reference

Arizona: Governor Doug Ducey (R)

<https://azgovernor.gov/news/2017/01/watch-arizona-state-state-address>

January 9, 2017

Step 9: Early Literacy. Without a doubt, schools in low-income areas are the ones that really need our focus—and that's what my budget prioritizes. Right now, more than half of Arizona schools offer voluntary full-day kindergarten. Parents love it. Kids benefit from it. So I say, let's expand it. **My budget gives the lowest-income schools dollars to start or expand full-day kindergarten, and address an issue we know is critical to closing the achievement gap: The ability to read by third grade.**

Arkansas: Governor Asa Hutchinson (R)

<http://governor.arkansas.gov/speeches/detail/state-of-the-state-address-91st-session-of-the-general-assembly>

January 10, 2017

No reference



California: Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. (D)

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=19669>

January 24, 2017

No reference

Colorado: Governor John Hickenlooper (D)

<https://www.colorado.gov/governor/news/gov-hickenlooper-delivers-annual-state-state-address-1>

January 12, 2017

Closing the [skills] gap means giving students a solid foundation for success at every step of their education, as they move from preschool through K-12, toward college, certificate, or apprenticeship and onto a good job. Part of that work includes a common sense plan to fund education. The constitutional budget constraints for school finance are the thorniest part of our fiscal thicket. This July, the Gallagher Amendment will cause property taxes for schools to drop by \$170 million. In addition to addressing transportation, Speaker Duran, President Grantham, and minority leaders Guzman and Neville: let's get our best minds together and find a way out of this thicket that respects taxpayers and gives all of our children the education they deserve.

Connecticut: Governor Dannel P. Malloy (D)

<http://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/Press-Room/Speeches/Governor-Dannel-P-Malloys-2017-State-of-the-State-Address>

January 4, 2017

No reference

Delaware: Governor John Carney (D)

<http://news.delaware.gov/2017/03/30/governor-carney-delivers-address-to-joint-session-of-the-general-assembly/>

March 30, 2017

Starting in her first week in office, [Education] Secretary Bunting has been spending time in classrooms, with teachers, in our most vulnerable schools. She's asking them what they need to be successful, and designing a plan to get them what they need. For each school and district, the needs will be different. One school may need a stronger preschool program so students arrive at kindergarten ready to learn. Another may need an after-school program. Our solution will not be one size fits all.

We will be coming back to the legislature and school communities with our plan to reform the Department of Education. We will make the Department responsive to the needs of the teachers and students in the classroom.

... A strong economy and good-paying jobs go a long way toward making most families stable and healthy. But for too many Delaware families—and far too many of our state's children—a growing economy is not enough. These families, these kids, need our help. That's why I've re-established the Family Services Cabinet Council, which meets for the first time next week.

Many Delaware families continue to face significant challenges—including the high cost of child care; violence and poverty in their neighborhoods; the impact of caring for an aging family member; or the challenges of navigating an economy in transition. The Family Services Cabinet Council will spearhead a new effort to coordinate public and private services that are often fragmented. The Council will propose changes to current programs to improve the delivery of state services.

Florida: Governor Rick Scott (R)

<http://www.flgov.com/2017/03/07/governor-rick-scotts-2017-state-of-the-state-address/>

March 7, 2017

No reference



Georgia: Governor Nathan Deal (R)

<http://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2017-01-11/deal%E2%80%99s-state-state-address-georgia-will-%E2%80%98accentuate-positive-eliminate>

January 11, 2017

No reference

Hawaii: Governor David Ige (D)

<http://governor.hawaii.gov/main/2017-state-of-the-state-address/>

January 23, 2017

I know there are those who are concerned about health care, child care, and rent payments. That's why we need to press on with the progress we've made over the last two years: transforming our schools; reshaping our economy; addressing homelessness and building more affordable homes; and making government more efficient so that it can continue to work for the people.

Idaho: Governor Butch Otter (R)

https://gov.idaho.gov/mediacenter/speeches/sp_2017/SOS_FY2018.pdf

January 9, 2017

No reference

Illinois: Governor Bruce Rauner (R)

<https://www.illinoispolicy.org/gov-bruce-rauners-2017-state-of-the-state-address/>

January 25, 2017

When it comes to providing a better future for the people of Illinois, nothing we do together is more important than educating our young people. We all want our children to be able to stay here in Illinois with good-paying jobs. And we want employers to come to Illinois because we have the best people. So our administration has made education from cradle to career a top priority. Two years ago we delivered unprecedented funding for our K-12 schools, and the next year we came back and did it again. **In all, our kids are receiving \$700 million more per year from the state than two years ago, including an extra \$100 million for early childhood education.**

...We created the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth, bringing together all state agencies that serve our children to ensure that Illinois' young people are healthy, safe, well-educated, and on the road to becoming self-sufficient. The commitment, cooperation, and effective problem solving among the agencies involved is extraordinary; in partnership with external partners in the private sector, they will make Illinois a better place for all children.

...All of us are here to build a better future for families across this state. ...It's a future where our schools are the envy of the world. Where every child from every background gets the same, high-quality education—from cradle to career—to get on the path to wealth, prosperity, and a high quality of life.

Indiana: Governor Eric Holcomb (R)

<http://www.in.gov/gov/2918.htm>

January 17, 2017

My third pillar is to develop a 21st century skilled and ready workforce. Our plans need to be comprehensive—beginning with an education system that gives every child a strong start all the way through the training programs that ensure our citizens have the skills they need. Therefore we must make sure that our resources are properly aligned to produce the skill sets our businesses crave, and I look forward to working with Representative Huston to develop a plan to create, reconfigure, and align workforce development programs and funding so that those needs—of today and tomorrow—are met. But it all starts way before one's first interview, of course. **Our most vulnerable children deserve a fair start, too, so I've called for us to double the state's investment in prekindergarten to \$20 million annually.**



Iowa: Governor Terry Branstad (R)

<http://www.kcci.com/article/branstad-delivers-final-condition-of-the-state-address/8581703>

January 10, 2017

No reference

Kansas: Governor Sam Brownback (R)

<https://governor.kansas.gov/2017-state-of-the-state/>

January 10, 2017

No reference

Kentucky: Governor Matt Bevin (R)

<https://www.ket.org/public-affairs/state-of-the-commonwealth-2017/>

February 8, 2017

No reference

Louisiana: Governor John Bel Edwards (D)

http://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/politics/article_0133f42e-1e1a-11e7-880a-ff80e8247242.html

April 10, 2017

No reference

Maine: Governor Paul LePage (R)

http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Gov_Speeches&id=730471&v=article2011

February 7, 2017

No reference

Maryland: Governor Larry Hogan (R)

<http://governor.maryland.gov/2017/02/01/2017-state-of-the-state-address/>

February 1, 2017

No reference

Massachusetts: Governor Charlie Baker (R)

<http://www.mass.gov/governor/press-office/press-releases/fy2017/governor-delivers-second-state-of-the-commonwealth-address.html>

January 24, 2017

No reference

Michigan: Governor Rick Snyder (R)

http://www.michigan.gov/snyder/0,4668,7-277-74857_78766-401909--,00.html

January 17, 2017

On education, **we have over 400 new positions for early childhood education in the community of Flint** and we've seen 827 new jobs created in that community since we started this process and again we are going to keep up activity in each one of those categories.



...Education. We need to give our kids the education that gives them the skills and judgment they need to achieve quality careers, to start families, and to give back to their communities. So I created the Education Commission this last year to take up those issues and I'm looking forward to their recommendations but we have made some key accomplishments this last year. **One thing in particular I'm excited about was the work on pre-3 reading**, about enhancing the investment in those young people because you learn to read through third grade. After third grade you read to learn and we need to do more and we're going to get up to being the best in the nation by working these standards and I appreciate that partnership.

...We also have a huge opportunity given the situation to reach out to people that didn't necessarily have the opportunity to be in our workforce, they face challenges, and to invite them to join us in this workforce and help eliminate the barriers that have kept them out. Two programs in particular, a program we started several years ago in 2012 is Community Ventures. **It was there to help break down the barriers of the structurally unemployed. Did they need a ride to training? Did they need help with day care?** This was beyond all the federal programs, which are inadequate in my view. This was solely state dollars on how we can help these people. We're doing this in Flint, Pontiac, Saginaw, and Detroit. Since it started we've created over 3,700 good job opportunities, 1,000 in the last year alone. We're having more and more employers enter the program and we're going to expand to more cities. This is a great opportunity to grow.

Minnesota: Governor Mark Dayton (D)

<https://mn.gov/governor/newsroom/?id=1055-274216>

January 23, 2017

...[T]o enable all Minnesotans to achieve their full potentials, we must provide them with the best-possible educations, skills, and training that they will need to live successful lives and contribute to the successes of their communities. Those excellent educations, from early childhood, to K-12 elementary and secondary, to colleges and universities, are increasingly the pre-requisites for better jobs, higher incomes, and healthier lifestyles. If we were ever to lose our educational superiority, the damage to our state's social and economic well-being would be irreparable.

That is why a top priority during my six years as governor has been to restore state funding for our elementary and secondary schools and our public colleges, universities, and technical schools; **to provide free, all-day kindergarten for our five-year-olds; and, now, to increase support for quality child care and prekindergarten classes.** Those investments are our best strategies for closing achievement gaps and for raising the skill levels of all our students. Earlier this month, the well-respected national education publication, Education Week, graded the 50 states' public school systems in three areas: K-12 achievement, school finance, and early childhood education effectiveness. Minnesota ranked the 11th best state overall. We were sixth best for K-12 achievement; third best, with an A rating, for our early education initiatives; but only 21st in per-pupil education funding, with a grade of D.

...When I ran for office, I promised to expand state-funded kindergarten to serve all of Minnesota's five-year-olds. **Today, because of legislative support in 2013, over 55,000 children are attending all-day K**, and we have tremendous results to show for it. But the research says that, to be most effective, we need to start even earlier to improve young children's lives.

The legislature deserves credit for increasing state support for quality child care and supportive family services during the past six years. Last year, you provided the first state funding for prekindergarten school programs, which was immediately oversubscribed by eager school districts, and now benefits 3,300 Minnesota four-year-olds. Combined with 26,700 early learning scholarships, more Minnesota children are getting the better starts they need today for their better tomorrows.

However, too many children are still being left behind, because we haven't done enough to ensure that all of them have excellent early learning opportunities. Take, for instance, the Marshall Public School District. Led by Superintendent Scott Monson, who is here with us tonight, they applied for pre-K funding. A grant would have helped 52 of their youngest learners. Unfortunately, because of the state program's inadequate funding, Marshall was one of 160 school districts that could not be supported this year. Nevertheless, Marshall, like many school districts, is moving ahead anyway. With limited funding, but great determination, they have enrolled 125 students in their Little Cubs program for three-, four-, and five-year-olds. Thanks to state funding for other early childhood programs, including scholarships, Marshall has been able to keep costs down for families enrolling in preschool. Thank you, Superintendent Monson. And thank you to your tremendous prekindergarten team, who have joined us here tonight. Jill Schwartz and Darci Love—your work makes an enormous difference in the lives and educations of your students. Minnesota is better for your exceptional efforts.



But we must do more to support our young children all over our state. **That is why, in my budget, I will propose further increases in state funding for quality child care, for prekindergarten, and for other early childhood enhancements, such as visiting nurses for teen parents.** They will all help to ensure that every child starting kindergarten has a decent chance to be a successful student and to become a healthy, productive adult.

But don't take my word for it. To hear Janice and Milen Armstrong talk about the gains their four-year-old daughter, Jannah, has made since beginning voluntary pre-K is to understand what early education means for Minnesota families. Before their daughter, Jannah, began pre-K, her parents took turns staying home to care for her. But her limited interactions with other children were starting to affect her physical skills, vocabulary, and emotional development. Janice and Milen believed that Jannah could benefit from high-quality child care, but they couldn't afford the cost. However, since Jannah began attending free pre-K, five days a week, she has blossomed. Her vocabulary has increased tremendously, her motor skills are improving, and she has made great friends at school. She will be ready to start kindergarten this fall. Having Jannah in school has also given more freedom to her parents. Janice has returned to school part time, and is applying to nursing programs for the fall. Thank you, Janice and Milen, for sharing Jannah's success with all of us.

The Armstrongs' story illustrates what voluntary pre-K can do to help young children and their families, throughout our state. Why wouldn't we want to provide those better opportunities for everyone? In addition to our moral responsibility to ensure that every child receives a world-class education, there is another important reason to make these additional investments. Because our future depends upon them.

Mississippi: Governor Phil Bryant (R)

<http://www.governorbryant.ms.gov/Pages/2017-State-of-the-State-Full-Text.aspx>

January 17, 2017

No reference

Missouri: Governor Eric Greitens (R)

<https://governor.mo.gov/news/speeches/2017-state-state-address>

January 17, 2017

Recently, a non-partisan think tank took a close look at the welfare system in each state. Here's how things work in Missouri: Let's say you're a single mom working 30 hours a week, making \$12.25 an hour. You're working as hard as you can, taking care of your kid and trying to raise him right. One day, your boss comes to you and offers you a \$5 an hour raise. That should add up to about \$7,500 to \$8,000 more a year. But here's what happens in Missouri: **If you take the raise, you'd lose over \$700 a year in food stamps and \$800 in housing subsidies. You lose \$4,700 in child care subsidies, and \$1,200 in the earned income tax credit.** And you'd pay an extra \$800 in taxes. That \$8,000 raise cost you over \$8,200 dollars. That hard-working single mom is essentially robbed of her raise.

We need to build a system based on two simple principles:

- 1) It should always, always, always pay more to work in the state of Missouri.
- 2) If your boss gives you a raise, you should make more money.

I will work with all of you to build a system that lifts people out poverty and into the middle class, one based on hard work and personal responsibility.

Montana: Governor Steve Bullock (D)

<http://governor.mt.gov/Newsroom/ArtMID/28487/ArticleID/5581>

January 24, 2017

There are investments we can't afford not to make...finally, finally it's time to follow the lead of 45 other states that have done it already, and invest in publicly funded early childhood education.



My administration and local districts have made progress for our four-year-olds these past four years, in spite of—not as a result of—this body. **Last year, more than 650 children were able to access high-quality preschool their parents otherwise might not have been able to afford.** Those children now have a brighter future, because they will enter kindergarten ready and excited to learn.

The average cost of child care in Montana for a four-year-old is \$7,900 dollars—in other words, more than college tuition at Montana State University or the University of Montana. A mom earning minimum wage could easily spend half of her income on child care for just one kiddo. Let's help those families. **I have proposed a \$12 million preschool grant program to allow school districts, Head Start programs, or high-quality private preschool providers to offer preschool for four-year-old kids at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.**

Like the other 45 states that have implemented state funding for preschool, we know this works. And if you think the research says otherwise, stop by my office and I will give you a stack of reports taller than a four-year-old to help in your education. If you think this isn't a good investment, consider this: the single biggest indicator of whether someone will be in prison when they are 18 years old is the size of their vocabulary when they are five.

To be clear, it costs us not to invest in kids. As Governor Babcock explained, "The best way to reduce the cost of public welfare is to make it possible for every person to obtain the kind of education which will permit him to be a productive and successful member of our society." Early childhood education is that kind of education, and our kids can no longer wait.

Nebraska: Governor Pete Ricketts (R)

<https://governor.nebraska.gov/press/governor-ricketts-state-state-address-0>

January 12, 2017

No reference

Nevada: Governor Brian Sandoval (R)

<http://gov.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/govnv.gov/Content/About/GovernorSOS-AsPreparedforDeliveryJan2017.pdf>

January 17, 2017

Our work also ensures children are reading at grade level by the third grade, places technology in our student's hands, and **provides full-day kindergarten for every child in Nevada.**

New Hampshire: Governor Chris Sununu (R)

<https://www.governor.nh.gov/news-media/speeches/budget-2017.htm>

February 9, 2017

A major goal of this budget is to expand educational opportunity and choice for kids and their families. This budget proposes a targeted full-day kindergarten program that will provide financial support to communities that choose to support and create full-day kindergarten programs.

Under the new program, the Department of Education would be directed to distribute \$18 million over the biennium to communities that have approved full-day kindergarten. State aid would be allocated among communities based on a measure of relative need, with factors including: a community's relative property wealth to that in relative to the rest of the state; participation rates for free and reduced lunch programs compared to statewide averages; and communities with high percentages of English language learner students.

I've heard from many young parents that this is a priority of theirs—in both considering the quality of a community's public education and in their decision-making process when choosing a place to raise their children. So, I am proud today, to be the first governor to deliver a real full-day kindergarten program for communities across the state.



New Jersey: Governor Chris Christie (R)

<http://nj.gov/governor/news/news/552017/approved/20170110c.html>

January 10, 2017

No reference

New Mexico: Governor Susana Martinez (R)

http://www.governor.state.nm.us/uploads/PressRelease/191a415014634aa89604e0b4790e4768/Governor_Susana_Martinez_Delivers_State_of_the_State_Address_2.pdf

January 17, 2017

Last year, CYFD [New Mexico's Children, Youth and Families Department] launched a new initiative called Pull Together, an effort to make New Mexico the best place to be a kid. I am so proud of the program and the work they've done.

...Through Pull Together, we established 16 hubs around the state run by community leaders to connect families in their neighborhoods with services. CYFD services, Medicaid, local, state, and federal services—we're connecting more families than ever before to the help they need. This isn't just about one agency; it's about an entire community coming together. Let's make New Mexico the best place to be a kid!

...Since 2010, we increased early childhood spending by \$55.5 million. Twenty-five thousand more kids are being served annually. We're investing more into home visiting, increasing it from \$2.2 million to \$18.7 million since 2011. Five times the number of families are being served since 2011.

...We have invested in and prioritized early childhood education and literacy. We raised the bar for how our youngest students are learning. **We've doubled enrollment in pre-K** and tripled enrollment in K-3 plus to the highest levels in history. We are preparing kids better than ever before. But we have to encourage them. A child who can read at grade level early on is more likely to go to high school, graduate, go to college, and be able to provide for their families.

...let's come together and believe in our kids. Make sure they are prepared for the next step. We can come together and be champions for our children. It is not just about third grade. It is about home visits, early childhood learning, first grade, second grade, and third grade; all the way up through learning a trade or through college.

... We have certainly made great strides on education, economic development and fighting crime. And we have done it not as Republicans and not as Democrats, but as New Mexicans. We are preparing students better in early childhood and elementary school to succeed in high school.

New York: Governor Andrew Cuomo (D)

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/video-photos-rush-transcript-governor-cuomo-delivers-his-2017-regional-state-state-albany>

January 11, 2017

The cost of child care for middle-class families, the average cost for two children has gone to \$25,000 a year, believe it or not. You wonder how people make it. **We want to double the state's credit for child care.** It will help 200,000 families who need it desperately.

North Carolina: Governor Roy Cooper (D)

<https://governor.nc.gov/news/2017-state-state-remarks-prepared-delivery>

March 13, 2017

Improving education is an area where we can find common ground. We have to measure our progress and hold ourselves accountable. That's why I've laid out aggressive goals to make North Carolina a top ten educated state by 2025—emphasizing early childhood education, increasing enrollment in prekindergarten, improving our high school graduation rate, and increasing the percentage of adults with a higher education degree.



My budget creates nearly 4,700 additional prekindergarten slots to eliminate the wait-list of at-risk four-year-olds. Getting more kids in pre-K means they'll arrive at school ready to learn. It's the foundation for a lifetime of success, showing economic and health benefits well beyond their pre-K years. And it allows both parents to stay in the workforce, a necessity for many North Carolina families.

Top CEOs in our state are promoting early childhood education because they know it makes a difference. Research proves that investing in quality early childhood education generates high returns, where \$1 of investment yields \$7 in return or even higher.

To help families afford the cost of quality child care, I'm also proposing that we reinstate the Child Care and Dependent Tax Credit, which also applies to those caring for aging parents.

...Back in the late 1990s, this House was controlled by Republicans while I was in the Senate, controlled by Democrats. We disagreed and fought. And I spent many late nights here, talking and negotiating. But we found common ground on raising teacher salaries to the national average. **We found common ground on expanding Smart Start** and cutting taxes for the middle class. Republicans and Democrats can find common ground if we work on it.

North Dakota: Governor Doug Burgum (R)

<https://www.governor.nd.gov/sites/governor/files/video/2017-StateOfState-Transcript.pdf>

January 3, 2017

No reference

Ohio: Governor John Kasich (R)

<http://governor.ohio.gov/MediaRoom/PressReleases/TabId/200/ArticleId/657/governor-kasichs-state-of-the-state-address-2017.aspx>

April 4, 2017

No reference

Oklahoma: Governor Mary Fallin (R)

<https://www.ok.gov/governor/documents/2-6-17%20%20FINAL%20Governor%20Fallin%20State%20of%20the%20State.pdf>

February 6, 2017

No reference

Oregon: Governor Kate Brown (D)

<http://www.oregon.gov/gov/media/Pages/speeches/Inaugural-010917.aspx>

January 9, 2017

We invested in a seamless system of public education from cradle to career, including early childhood education, all-day kindergarten, and our community college access program, the Oregon Promise.

...It was once said that "A school is a building with four walls on the outside and tomorrow on the inside." And there can be no doubt that the opportunities for a successful life for our children and our grandchildren depend upon our ability to provide an education of the highest possible quality. And there is no doubt, the investments we have made in the past two years in our early learning, K-through-12, and postsecondary education systems have made a difference. Yet, there are still some statistics that should disturb us.

Our schools continue to be among the nation's leaders in all the wrong categories—the largest class size, the shortest school year, and the highest drop-out rate. And in some rural counties such as Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson, despite heroic efforts by local educators, fewer than half of young children are meeting early milestones indicating that a child is "school ready."



Pennsylvania: Governor Tom Wolf (D)

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/governor-wolfs-2017-2018-budget-address/>

February 7, 2017

Our renewed commitment to Pennsylvania schools has included \$465 million in restored funding for K-12 education, \$14.6 million for early intervention, and \$81.4 million for higher education. **We've restored \$60 million in funding for early childhood education, and now nearly 200 school districts across the Commonwealth are planning to make new investments in pre-K or kindergarten**, giving thousands of our youngest Pennsylvanians a boost as they embark on a lifetime of learning.

We haven't solved every problem in our education system. But I'm proud to say that the investment we've worked together to make in Pennsylvania's future is already beginning to pay off. In this budget, I'm proposing \$125 million for K-through-12 classrooms, **\$75 million to expand high-quality early childhood education**, and \$8.9 million for our state system of higher education.

Rhode Island: Governor Gina Raimondo (D)

<http://www.governor.ri.gov/newsroom/speeches/2017/state-of-the-state.php>

January 17, 2017

Our schools are getting stronger and our kids are getting a shot at a brighter future. To set all of our students out on the right path, we've made important investments in their success. We came together two years ago to guarantee that every child is able to attend all-day kindergarten. **And we've made new investments to triple the number of public pre-K classes.**

South Carolina: Governor Nikki Haley (R)

http://dc.statelibrary.sc.gov/bitstream/handle/10827/23754/GOV_State_of_the_State_Address_2017-01-11.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

January 11, 2017

No reference

South Dakota: Governor Dennis Daugaard (R)

<http://sd.gov/governor/docs/2017%20State%20of%20the%20State.pdf>

January 10, 2017

No reference

Tennessee: Governor Bill Haslam (R)

<https://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/governor/attachments/2017-State-of-the-State-Address.pdf>

January 30, 2017

No reference

Texas: Governor Greg Abbott (R)

<http://gov.texas.gov/news/press-release/23119>

January 31, 2017

By every measure, last session was a tremendous success. In addition to improving early education and higher education, we provided a record amount of badly needed funding to unclog our congested roads.

...We must provide our children with the tools they need to succeed. We do that through education. James Madison emphasized the importance of education to our liberty. He said "a well-instructed people...can be a permanently free people." That's precisely our goal in educating our children: Ensuring their perpetual freedom.



That education begins with early education, including high-quality pre-K. Don't take my word for the importance of this. Eighty percent of all voters agree: Texas should fund optional high-quality pre-K education. They want our children on the path to reading and doing math at grade level by the time they finish third grade.

Representative Huberty and Senator Campbell, you were right to champion that proposal last session. You brought high quality standards to a pre-K system that desperately needed meaningful improvement. So, I'm perplexed by the budgets submitted by the House and Senate. They nod in the direction of pre-K, but they turn a blind eye to the goal of achieving high-quality pre-K. Do your constituents know that each session you vote to spend about \$1.5 billion on unaccountable pre-K? The purpose of high-quality pre-K is to set high standards, evaluate them, and eliminate what doesn't work. It's to ensure that pre-K works rather than wastes taxpayer money. Let's do this right. Or don't do it at all.

Utah: Governor Gary Herbert (R)

<https://governorblog.utah.gov/2017/01/2017-state-of-the-state-address/>

January 25, 2017

No reference

Vermont: Governor Phil Scott (R)

http://governor.vermont.gov/sites/scott/files/documents/Governor%20Phil%20Scott_FY%202018%20Budget%20Address.pdf

January 24, 2017

We must also be honest about how we distribute funding. Our schools have 20,000 fewer kids than they did 20 years ago. We can no longer afford to allow so much of the nearly \$19,000 we spend for each K-through-12 student to be diverted away from the child and toward empty spaces and overhead costs. This structural inefficiency also leaves too little of our \$1.6 billion education commitment for investments in early care, higher education, and trades training. And, we can no longer ask property taxpayers to pay more every year for education without offering better efficiency, and better outcomes.

If we are willing to rethink how we do things—and if we have the courage to align overhead costs with the size of our student population, wherever we can—we can create the best education system in the nation, give our kids the brightest possible future, and attract more families to Vermont for a stronger economy. To start us on this new path, I'm proposing a realignment of priorities and spending that allows us to unify the system from early care to higher education and trades training. Here's the bottom line: For the future of our kids, for our teachers, and for our economic well-being, we need to act.

Numerous reports show Vermont is among the least affordable states for child care. This is not just an education issue, it's a workforce issue that undermines the security of families and slows our growth. For example, a woman from Peacham worked full time in the dairy industry when she and her husband had their first child. She had planned to go back to work, hoping for the security of two incomes. But when they found child care would eat up her entire paycheck, it made more sense for her to stay home.

This demonstrates why investing in high-quality care and early learning serves as an economic driver in supporting working parents and the businesses that employ them. It also dramatically reduces future costs in health care, special education, and corrections.

That's why I'm proposing we increase investment in early care and pre-K by \$9.6 million. My budget directs \$7.5 million of this to the Child Care Financial Assistance Program. I'm also proposing investment in competitive grants supporting early care and pre-K. We'll invest \$1 million in full-day pre-K programs for high-poverty kids. And propose a \$600,000 grant for the development of a model that helps child care providers share services. We further localize this effort with \$500,000 for pilot programs at the municipal level. This will spur ideas like unique scholarship opportunities, or grants that expand the number of spots available, and to help make quality child care centers more affordable.

...If we are going to have the most valuable early care through higher education system, we must manage education spending in a unified way. This is the first step in better aligning programs, eliminating inefficiencies, and measuring results across the



entire system. With this goal in mind, my budget moves spending for higher education, retired teachers' health care, and normal liability for teachers' retirement to the Education Fund. In future fiscal years, we will transfer early care and pre-K funding to the Education Fund as well. To cover these costs, I'm proposing to increase the General Fund transfer to the Education Fund by nearly \$86 million above statutorily recommended levels.

Virginia: Governor Terry McAuliffe (D)

<https://governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/newsarticle?articleId=18925>

January 11, 2017

I am proud of the work we have done together to strengthen Virginia's education system from pre-K through higher-ed and mid-career workforce training. This session we can build on those accomplishments together.

Washington: Governor Jay Inslee (D)

<http://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/speeches/2017Inaugural.pdf>

January 11, 2017

We're no strangers to working through hard challenges. We've done some hard things together in the past four years. ...We worked together to make historic investments in early learning. We know there is no better time to set our children up to succeed than when they are most eager to learn.

...These bipartisan successes reflect our values as Washingtonians. And now it's time to go even further to secure the prosperous future we want for our kids and for our state. ...**We need to continue expanding access to early learning so more kids can get the strongest possible start in school.**

West Virginia: Governor Jim Justice (D)

<http://www.governor.wv.gov/News/press-releases/2017/Pages/Full-Transcript-of-2017-State-of-the-State-Address.aspx>

February 8, 2017

No reference

Wisconsin: Governor Scott Walker (R)

<https://walker.wi.gov/press-releases/governor-walker-delivers-2017-state-state-address>

January 10, 2017

No reference

Wyoming: Governor Matt Mead (R)

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

January 11, 2017

No reference

