

CHILD CARE FOR WORKING FAMILIES ACT



A Campaign of Child Care Advocates and Allies
Developed by the National Women's Law Center

The Child Care for Working Families Act would amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant and provide sufficient funding so that no family under 150% of the State Median Income would pay more than 7% of their income on child care. The bill would also provide funding to:

- **Increase professional development and compensation for the child care workforce:** The bill would support education and training opportunities for child care providers, ensure that all child care workers are paid a living wage and early childhood educators are provided parity with elementary school teachers with similar credentials and experience, and set tiered payment rates that reflect the cost of providing care at progressively higher levels of quality.
- **Increase the supply of child care:** The bill would address the shortage of high-quality, inclusive care, particularly for children in underserved areas, children with disabilities, and infants and toddlers with disabilities.
- **Improve the quality of child care:** The bill requires states to establish tiered and transparent systems to measure the quality of child care providers and provides substantial resources to states to help providers increase their quality.
- **Support family, friend, and neighbor care providers:** The bill recognizes the important role these providers play in meeting the needs of parents working non-traditional hours and allows states to use some of their quality funding for activities focused on these providers.
- **Expand the availability and affordability of infant care:** Given that infant care is particularly difficult for families to find and afford, the federal government would cover a higher proportion of the cost for child care assistance for infants and toddlers—90%, with states contributing the remaining 10%—than for other child care assistance spending under the legislation.
- **Expand equitable access to high-quality preschool:** The bill would allow for \$8 billion a year for 10 years to enable states to support high-quality preschool programs for three- and four-year olds through a diverse delivery system.
- **Increase funding for full-school-day, full-school-year Head Start:** Grants would be provided to help Head Start programs meet the requirement (included in the Head Start Performance Standards issued in 2016) that programs extend the duration of their services.