

September 29, 2023

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Majority Leader, United States Senate 104 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Speaker, United States House of Representatives 217 Ford House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

SRE: Small Business Support of the Child Care Stabilization Act (S. 2770; H.R.5433)

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Speaker McCarthy:

As representatives of America's 33 million small businesses, our organizations write today in support of the Child Care Stabilization Act (S. 2770; H.R.5433). It is essential that Congress passes the Child Care Stabilization Act to ensure adequate and continued childcare funding, which can bolster quality workforce and be a key factor in entrepreneurial sustainability.

Small business owners and their employees need affordable and accessible childcare in order to thrive and keep our economy moving. While it's well-documented that access to childcare has been a particular challenge over the last few years, thousands of childcare providers and the families they serve greatly benefited from federal pandemic-related funding, which will end in a matter of days. This looming deadline will impact more than 700,000 childcare programs, many of which are likely to close.

This will create a massive domino effect that will greatly impact small businesses and their employees, and the overall economy. A recent <u>economic analysis by the Century Foundation</u> estimates that as a result of this funding cliff, states will experience an estimated \$10.6 billion loss in tax and business revenue per year. Parents around the country, many of whom own or work for a small business, will be forced to choose between their job and their families.

This is why it is of utmost importance for you to pass the Child Care Stabilization Act. This commonsense proposal would provide \$16 billion in funding over the next five years, helping to alleviate the drop off in critical investments to keep childcare centers afloat during this vital time.

Entrepreneurs and small business owners need a stable and affordable childcare industry. Thirty-six percent of small business owners with children report that not having access to childcare was a barrier to starting their own business, while more than 3 in 10 employers report that employees' families and childcare issues affect their job performance or productivity.

What's more, many childcare providers are small business owners themselves, the <u>majority of whom are women and people of color</u> and who already struggle to access funding and resources for their businesses. If these businesses close, our economy will face an <u>estimated \$9 billion in earning losses</u> annually. By supporting small childcare providers, we can continue working toward a path of inclusive recovery.

We thank you for your consideration of this legislation to increase childcare accessibility and affordability, and for your support of America's small business owners and those they employ.

Sincerely,

Adelante Community Development

Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California Atlanta Wealth Building Initiative

California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce

California Association for Micro Enterprise

Opportunity (CAMEO)

California Black Chamber of Commerce

California Capital Financial Development

Corporation

California EDGE Coalition

California Health Professional Student Alliance

at Berkeley

California Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN)

California Physicians Alliance

California WIC Association

Caring Across Generations

Career Ladders Project (CLP)

Center for Community Action and

Environmental Justice

Ceres Community Project

Child Care Law Center

Child Care Resource Center of California

Children Now

Colorado Black Chamber of Commerce

Colorado Center on Law and Policy

Community for Innovation, Entrepreneurship,

Leadership & Opportunities (CIELO)

Community Foundation of the San Luis Valley

Community Health Partnership

Compañeros: Four Corners Immigrant Resource

Center

Courage California

Energize Colorado

EveryChild California

First 5 California

First 5 San Mateo County

Focus Center/Enfocar Centro

Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready

Students (GEEARS)

CC: The Honorable Patty Murray

The Honorable Katherine M. Clark

Grail Family Services

Inland Empire Immigrant Youth Collective

Jefferson Economic Development Institute

(JEDI)

Legal Aid at Work

Los Angeles Economic Equity Accelerator and

Fellowship (LEEAF)

LA Best Babies Network

The Latino Chamber of Commerce of Boulder

County

Main Street Alliance

Maternal and Child Health Access

Mi Casa Resource Center

Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing

Project

National Council of Jewish Women, Los Angeles

New Moms

Orange County Equality Coalition

Raizes Collective

Rocky Mountain MicroFinance Institute

(RMMFI)

San Diego County Breastfeeding Coalition

San Francisco Filipino American Chamber of

Commerce

Sistahbiz Global Network

Small Business Majority

Stanislaus 2030

Startup Colorado

UNITE-LA

University Childcare of Chicago

Vail Valley Partnerships

Ventures

Watsonville Law Center

Women's Business Development Center

(WBDC)

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