

ACT NOW: Reach out to your Legislators and Schedule a meeting

Dear [Recipient's Name],

I hope you are doing well. As someone deeply committed to our children's well-being and future success, I would like to request a meeting to discuss the importance of continuing to prioritize early childhood care and education in the upcoming budget. Your role in this decision-making process is crucial, and I believe your insights will significantly contribute to our cause.

Please consider supporting the following critical initiatives that would make a meaningful impact on families and communities:

Department of Education: Increase Access to State-Funded Pre-K (ECAP)

- Expand access for 500 additional children.
- Increase eligibility to serve families at least 250% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Provide infrastructure funds to expand early care and education capacity through grants and by allowing public school capital funding to cover pre-K programs.

Department of Health and Social Services: Increase Access to Child Care (Purchase of Care)

- Raise per-child Purchase of Care rates to at least the federal benchmark of the 75th percentile, enabling programs to open more classrooms and increase staff pay and benefits.
- Expand eligibility to serve families up to at least 250% of the Federal Poverty Level, making approximately 5,000 more families eligible.
- Increase special education rates to cover the costs of supporting children with special needs.

These investments will help ensure access to high-quality programs, improve staff support, and serve even more families in need.

I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss further these proposals and the critical need for continued investment in early childhood education. Let's schedule a time to meet at your earliest convenience. I am available on [provide a few date and time options] but am happy to adjust to your schedule.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I truly appreciate your dedication to this important issue and look forward to meeting with you soon.

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Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[Your Contact Information]