

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 12, 2020

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and
Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and
Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

As you develop the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we are writing to respectfully request that you provide robust funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG).

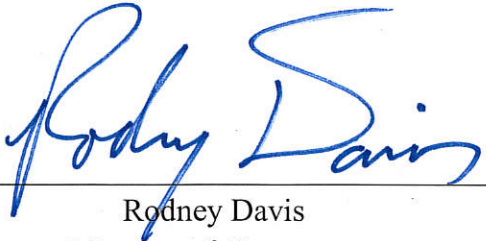
Recognizing the need to direct taxpayer resources to programs that can demonstrate a return on federal investments, support of quality child care - which has a strong evidence base - enables parents to work, train, or pursue an education, while also playing a crucial role in supporting children's healthy development, learning, and school readiness. While improving future opportunities for children, CCDBG also invests in parents by supporting their ability to work and be successful. As of today, only a fraction of eligible children receive CCDBG, and access to affordable high-quality child care still remains a barrier for many parents who wish to enter and remain in the workforce. Given the importance of this program to working families across the country, there is a critical need for robust funding.

CCDBG is a crucial component of the long standing federal-state early childhood education partnership. Through CCDBG the federal government works with states to support local providers to address the individual needs of children and families, while also prioritizing parental choice. Additionally, CCDBG creates a solid foundation upon which states are building their own child care systems, by leveraging federal funding to create and expand high-quality early learning and care opportunities beyond what is possible with state funding alone.

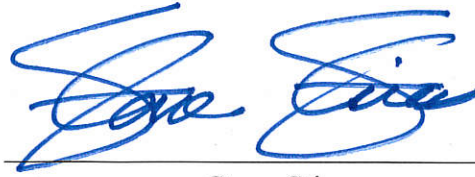
Finally, the CCDBG Act was reauthorized in 2014 with bipartisan support making important changes to improve the overall quality of care available and to make it easier for parents to find and maintain high-quality care. To meet these new quality and safety standards, Congress has made bipartisan investments in CCDBG in recent years, taking a critical step toward decreasing costs to parents, reducing waitlists, and supporting local providers, however much work remains. As states continue to implement the 2014 quality improvements, additional funding is essential to ensuring increased access to quality child care.

As quality child care can make a powerful difference in a child's development and a family's well-being, we urge you to include robust funding for CCDBG in the FY2021 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. We appreciate the bipartisan support you have shown CCDBG in the past and we hope to continue to work with you to support increased investments in quality child care as the appropriations process moves forward this year.

Sincerely,



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



Steve Stivers
Member of Congress



Pete Stauber
Member of Congress

Child Care and Community Development Block Grant Funding, FY21

List of Signatories

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Rodney Davis
Pete Stauber
Steve Stivers
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