COMPARING THE BIDEN CAMPAIGN’S EARLY LEARNING AND CARE PROPOSAL TO LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN THE 116TH CONGRESS

1. Affordable High-Quality Child Care and Universal Preschool
2. Build Safe Child Care Facilities
3. Reward Caregivers and Educators with the Benefits and Protections They Deserve

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Introduction

In July, President-Elect Biden introduced his campaign proposal to expand access to high-quality child care and early learning as part of a larger economic recovery package aimed at investing in education and caregiving.

The Biden Plan for Mobilizing American Talent and Heart to Create a 21st Century Caregiving and Education Workforce (Biden Plan) would, among other steps:

- Offer free high-quality preschool to all 3- and 4-years olds
- Provide child care on a sliding scale for low-income and middle-class families
- Offer tax relief for families paying for child care
- Invest in child care facilities
- Increase early educators’ compensation and access to health care and other benefits

Child care has become a central campaign issue among Democratic and Republican candidates for office at all levels of government, and according to FFYF’s years of national bipartisan polling, voters of every political persuasion say more should be done to ensure all children – particularly those living in poverty – have access to high-quality early learning and care opportunities.

In FYFF’s 2020 poll, 84% of respondents said that high-quality, affordable child care for families with young children, like healthcare and education, is an essential service.

This bipartisan support is evident in the 116th Congress as well, where nearly 250 bills have been introduced related to early learning and care, more than a quarter of which (88) are bipartisan.

This resource shows how the Biden Plan aligns with some of those bills.
Affordable High-Quality Child Care and Universal Preschool

Provide all three- and four-year-olds access to free, high-quality preschool, partnering with states to provide a mixed delivery system that includes public school systems, child care centers and family child care providers, and Head Start.

  - Would create competitive grants to states to establish or expand voluntary full-day prekindergarten programs for three- and four-year old children.

Offer a refundable tax credit of up to $8,000 for child care. Families will receive as much as half of their spending on child care for children under age 13, up to $8,000 for one child or $16,000 for two or more children. The full 50% reimbursement will be available to families making less than $125,000 a year, and families making between $125,000 and $400,000 will receive a partial credit.¹

  - Among other changes, would make the CDCTC refundable; amend the range for the credit to between 35% and 50% of expenses; and require the AGI threshold and the maximum credit amounts to be adjusted for inflation after 2019.

- **H.R. 1967 (Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL))/S. 931 (Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA)): Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit Enhancement Act of 2019.**
  - Would make the CDCTC refundable; amend the range for the credit to between 35% and 50% of expenses; and require the AGI threshold and the maximum credit amounts to be adjusted for inflation after 2019.

  - Among other changes, for 2019 and 2020 would make the CDCTC refundable; amend the range for the credit to between 20% and 50% of expenses; increase to $120,000 the AGI threshold above which the credit is reduced; increase the maximum amount of the credit to $6,000 for one child and $12,000 for two or more children; and require the AGI threshold and maximum credit amounts to be adjusted for inflation after 2020.

- **S. 137: Right Start Child Care and Education Act of 2019 (Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)).**
  - Among other changes, would make the CDCTC refundable; amend the range for the credit to between 35% and 50% of expenses; increase to $30,000 the AGI threshold above which the credit is reduced; and increase the maximum amount of the credit to $6,000 for one child and $12,000 for two or more children.

¹ This proposal is comparable to the existing Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC), which is not currently refundable. The CDCTC allows families to claim up to $3,000 in dependent care expenses for one child under age 13 or $6,000 for two or more children. The credit is worth between 20% and 35% of these expenses, depending on a family’s adjusted gross income (AGI). The 35% credit is available to families with an AGI of $15,000 or less. The percentage declines by 1% for each $2,000 by which the AGI exceeds $15,000 until families with AGI of $43,000 or more reach the minimum of 20%.
Provide access to affordable, high-quality child care on a sliding scale for low-income and middle-class families. For young children ages zero to five, will adopt the child care program in the Child Care for Working Families Act:

- Partner with states to provide sliding scale subsidies so the cost of child care for low-income and middle-class families will be based on what they can afford—costs are capped at 7% of income for families earning below 1.5 times the state median income (SMI) (typical family will pay no more than $45 per week).²
    ◊ Would provide funds to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to administer an affordable child care and early learning program. Children who are at least six weeks of age but not yet required to attend school would be eligible to participate. The bill would establish a sliding fee scale with a maximum of 7% of family income for families with income more than 500% of the poverty line. Fees would be waived for children from families with incomes below 200% of the poverty line.

- Set aside a portion of the funds for tribes to expand access to quality child care for Native children, as well as for outlying areas including U.S. territories.³
  - S. 1161: Native Educator Support and Training Act (Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT)).
    ◊ Would establish a scholarship program for students who agree to teach at an eligible school, which the bill would define to include a Bureau-funded school, school serving a significant number of Indian students, a tribal early childhood education (ECE) program, or a federally-funded ECE education program that serves a significant number of Indian students.

Invest in quality child care standards and a well-trained and well-compensated child care workforce.

- Partner with states to ensure providers meet rigorous quality standards, including developmentally appropriate curriculum, small class sizes, and support positive interactions that promote children’s socio-emotional development.
    ◊ Among other provisions, as part of the revised child care subsidy program, would require states, in collaboration with stakeholders, to create a tiered system for measuring the

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² The Child Care for Working Families Act (H.R. 1364 (Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA))/S. 568 (Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)) would revise the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act to expand subsidy eligibility over time for all families with a family income of no more than 150% of SMI and establish a sliding scale for parent copayments based on a family’s income. The maximum copayment would be 7% of family income for families earning between 125-150% of SMI. Families with a child who is eligible for Head Start or with a family income of no more than 75% of SMI would pay no copayment.

³ The Child Care for Working Families Act would designate a portion of annual appropriations for payments to Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in accordance with the respective needs of those territories, the population of eligible children, the population of eligible children from low-income families to be served by the territory involved, and the cost of child care in the territory. The remainder would be reserved for payments to Indian tribes and tribal organizations with approved applications based on the population of Indian or Native Hawaiian eligible children, the cost of child care in the area, and whether awarding a grant or contract will increase the number of programs that meet the State’s quality standards.
quality of child care providers that: applies to all eligible child care providers; includes a set of standards for determining the tier of quality of a provider based on rigorous, evidence-based standards, which may be the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS); includes indicators that are appropriate for different types of providers and different age groups and different standards for non-traditional hours; and provides sufficient resources to enable standards at the entry tier to increase in rigor over time.

- **H.R. 3315 (Rep. Deb Haaland (D-NM))/S. 1878 (Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)): Universal Child Care and Early Learning Act.**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would require HHS to establish “Federal Standards for Child Care and Early Learning Services” that would be applicable to all prime sponsors and would include standards “as comprehensive as the [HSPPS] and the performance standards for providers and programs issued under the military child care program.”

- **Provide funding “reflective of the true cost of quality care.”**
  - **H.R. 1364 (Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA))/S. 568 (Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)): The Child Care for Working Families Act.**
    ◊ Among other provisions, as part of the revised child care subsidy program, would require states to develop a cost estimation model for providers at each tier of a state’s quality rating system and for providers of family, friend, and neighbor care.

- **H.R. 3315 (Rep. Deb Haaland (D-NM))/S. 1878 (Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)): Universal Child Care and Early Learning Act.**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would require the Secretary of HHS to consult with a committee of experts outside HHS to calculate the federal share of the costs of providing child care and early learning programs and ensure the amount allows prime sponsors to meet all program requirements.

- **Invest in strategies to retain and grow the pool of diverse, talented early childhood educators and give them the time, resources, and support (coaches, training and education opportunities for certification, and financial stability) they need to provide children an excellent education.**
  - **H.R. 3139 (Rep. Donald Norcross (D-NJ))/S. 1866 (Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ)): Supporting the Teaching profession through Revitalizing Investments in Valuable Educators (STRIVE) Act.**
    ◊ Among other changes, would appropriate funds for a beginning teacher mentoring grant program, including beginning early childhood educators; establish an incremental loan-cancellation program for teachers who, in a 12-month period, make 12 consecutive on-time monthly payments and are employed in a qualifying teaching position, which includes early child educators; expand TEACH grants to specifically include early childhood teachers and expand inclusion of early childhood educators in the Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) program; and establish grants to reimburse or subsidize ECE exam, certification, or licensure fees for low income individuals.
- **H.R. 4196**: To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include child development and early learning as community services under the Federal work-study program (Rep. Joaquin Castro (D-TX), Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)).
  ◊ Would add child development and early learning to the list of community services in which undergraduate, graduate, and professional students may participate under a federal work-study program.

- **H.R. 4674**: College Affordability Act (Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA)).
  ◊ Among other provisions, would extend TEACH grant eligibility to early childhood educators.

  ◊ Would establish grants to community colleges and minority-serving institutions to provide child care for student parents; provide training, mentorship, technical support, and expansion funding to new and existing child care providers in the service area; launch and expand early child educator preparation programs; and form strategic partnerships with regional institutions to expand, diversify, and strengthen the workforce pipeline for infant and toddler care providers.

- **H.R. 7201**: Child Care is Infrastructure Act (Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA)).
  ◊ Among other provisions, would appropriate $25 million for each of FY2021-FY2026 for an Early Childhood Educator Loan Assistance Program for early childhood educators who agree to serve for 5 years with a child care provider that receives or is eligible to receive CCDBG subsidies and $10 million for each of FY2021-FY2025 for grants to students enrolled in a qualified ECE program who commit to serve as a full- or part-time educator in a licensed early learning program for a minimum of 1 year and 4 additional months for each subsequent grant renewal.

  ◊ Would create a grant program for states to develop, administer, and evaluate ECE apprenticeships.4

  ◊ Among other provisions, would create a refundable tax credit for certain educators and school leaders, including early childhood educators, ECE program directors, ECE providers, and paraprofessionals and school-based mental health services providers in qualifying early childhood settings that increases based on the number of years of continuous employment in that position (up to the tenth year, after which time, the credit amount begins to decrease).

- **S. 137**: Right Start Child Care and Education Act of 2019 (Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)).
  ◊ Among other changes, would create a $2,000 annual tax credit for 3 years for child care providers with a bachelor’s degree in ECE, child care, or a related degree who provide at least 1,200 hours of child care services in a taxable year.

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4For additional proposals incorporating ECE in broader apprenticeship initiatives, see “Offer training and career ladders” below.
Expand access to care that works for working parents.

- **S. 468: Teachers and School Leaders need Education And Development to be Empowered Resources in Schools (LEADERS) Act (Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX), Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA)).**
  ◊ Would expand the TQP program to include training and professional development opportunities for principals and other school leaders, including ECE program directors.

- **S. 2510: Respect, Advancement, and Increasing Support for Educators (RAISE) Act (Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ)).**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would create a refundable tax credit for early childhood educators in high poverty early childhood centers, increase the educator tax credit from $250 to $500, and extend the educator tax credit to early childhood educators.

- **S. 2719: Creating Early Childhood Leaders Act (Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA), Sen. Mitt Romney (R-UT)).**
  ◊ Would amend the TQP program to require effective school leadership programs carried out under the grant to include training for school leaders on child development, social and emotional development, and effective instructional leadership skills for children from birth through age eight in order to effectively manage and support developmentally-appropriate ECE programs.

- **H.R. 1364 (Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA))/S. 568 (Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)): The Child Care for Working Families Act.**
  ◊ Among other provisions, as part of the revised child care subsidy program, would require states to prioritize services for children in underserved areas and infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities and would designate funds to improve access for homeless children and children in foster care. The bill would also provide grants to improve equitable access to high-quality preschool programs, including conducting a preschool equity review that includes data on the percentage of children participating in preschool programs disaggregated by children with disabilities, low-income children, children from major ethnic and racial groups, and dual language learners.

  ◊ Would establish grants to increase access to quality child care in child care deserts, including in rural areas and during nontraditional hours. Grants could be used to expand the workforce of eligible child care providers, including the cost of tuition and fees, textbooks, equipment, curriculum development, and other required educational materials, as well as creating or expanding capacity for child care resource and referral organizations to conduct outreach, technical assistance, or training; technical, financial, or managerial assistance to child care programs; and establishing low-cost loan programs for child care programs.
• Ensure families “will be able to choose high-quality child care that works for them, whether a child care center, home-based care with a family child care provider, or an informal arrangement with a friend, family member, or neighbor.”
  – H.R. 6459: Small Cities and Towns Investment Act (Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN)).
    ◊ Would establish grants through the Rural Development Innovation Center to local units of government with populations of less than 30,000 to purchase, construct, improve, or operate essential community facilities, including child care centers.

    ◊ Would allow the Department of Commerce to provide grants for public works and economic development projects that will, based on Commerce-established criteria, directly or indirectly increase the accessibility of affordable, quality child care, including grants for planning and training, research, and technical assistance related to such projects. Among other factors, such criteria would include the extent to which a project contributes to a family’s financial security and addresses child care needs in child care deserts or areas otherwise recognized as being in shortage.

  – H.R. 8326: Child Care is Economic Development (CED) Act (Rep. Abby Finkenauer (D-IA), Rep. Jim Hagedorn (R-MN)).
    ◊ Would require recipients of certain grants to incorporate strategies that directly or indirectly increase the accessibility of affordable, quality child care as part of a comprehensive economic development strategy.

• Ensure Early Head Start is an option for families that will benefit from comprehensive family support and child development resources, including through doubling Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships
  – H.R. 8004: To amend the Head Start Act to extend the duration of grants under such Act, and for other purposes (Rep. Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH), Rep. Steve Stivers (R-OH)).
    ◊ Would establish additional grants that enable Head Start and Early Head Start grantees to provide access to a full school year and a full school day of services; provide additional service hours for migrant and seasonal Head Start; or enhance the quality of services for grantees already offering full-day, full-year services.

Ensure families with school-aged children have expanded access to after-school, weekend, and summer care.

• Expand Child Care Development Block Grant subsidies to increase the number of school-aged children up to age 13 in low-income families who can benefit from the program.
  – No comparable proposal identified.
• Allow low- and middle-income families to take advantage of President-Elect Biden’s expanded, refundable tax credit to help cover after-school, weekend, and summer care costs.
  – See “Offer a refundable tax credit of up to $8,000 for child care” proposals above.
• Expand support for community schools, which often provide before, after-school, and summer learning opportunities, and increase funding for after-school programs, community centers, and extracurriculars to keep children safe, learning, and having fun when school is not in session. This includes expanding the 21st Century Community Learning Centers that provide critical enrichment opportunities for school-aged children.
    ◊ Would authorize grants to states and, through them, subgrants to consortia of local educational agencies (LEAs) and community partners to address school readiness and achievement. Among other uses, local consortia could use funds for full-service community schools, as well as high-quality early childhood learning and development.
  – S. 2784: Family Friendly Schools Act (Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA)).
    ◊ Would provide grants to LEAs to establish family friendly school policies that align the school day with the work day to better support working families and to establish a supplemental 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant program to support programs and activities during summer recess.

![Invest in child care and other wraparound services at community colleges.](image)

• Invest in child care and other wraparound services at community colleges.
  – H.R. 2632: CCAMPIS Reauthorization Act (Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA), Rep. Don Young (R-AK)).
    ◊ Among other provisions, would reauthorize the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program, raise the maximum amount of funding eligible institutions are able to receive; and establish performance bonuses for up to an additional 20% of the annual grant amount.
  – H.R. 4253: Empower Parents in College Act of 2019 (Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-SD)).
    ◊ Would amend the Higher Education Act to allow recipients of an institutional aid grant to use such funds to establish, improve, or expand partnerships with child care providers.
    ◊ Would establish an emergency grant aid program for students experiencing financial challenges that would directly impact their ability to continue their course of study, including a loss of child care.
  – H.R. 4674: College Affordability Act (Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA)).
    ◊ Among other provisions, would quadruple CCAMPIS funding and require new grantees to meet reasonable quality standards.
- **H.R. 5222: Helping Student Parents Succeed Act (Rep. Colin Allred (D-TX)).**
  - Would require institutions of higher education (IHEs) to provide certain information to expectant and parenting students, including information about the availability of dependent care allowances for the purposes of determining the student’s cost of attendance and information on available services, programs, and community resources, including child care and care subsidy and assistance programs.

- **H.R. 5475: PROSPECT Act (Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT)).**
  - Among other provisions, would establish grants to community colleges and minority-serving institutions to provide child care for student parents and provide training, mentorship, technical support, and expansion funding to new and existing child care providers in the service area.

- **H.R. 5759: Gateway to Careers Act of 2020 (Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC)).**
  - Would establish a career pathway grant program and allow institutions receiving a grant to provide student support services to students engaged in career pathway programs, including child care.

- **H.R. 7201: Child Care is Infrastructure Act (Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA)).**
  - Among other provisions, would modify and reauthorize CCAMPIS through FY2026.

- **S. 1403: Expanding On-Campus Child Care to Help Student Parents Succeed Act (Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)).**
  - Among other provisions, would increase CCAMPIS funding, as well as the minimum grant amount, and would allow funds to be used to provide child care subsidies for low-income students, in addition to on-campus care, which the law already allows.

- **S. 2225: Basic Assistance for Students in College (BASIC) Act (Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA)).**
  - Would establish grants to support IHEs in meeting college students’ basic needs, which the bill defines to include child care.

- **S. 4465: Emergency Grant Aid for College Students Act (Sen. Tina Smith (D-MN)).**
  - Would establish a grant program for emergency financial aid for college students. “Emergency” for these purposes would include financial challenges that would impact the ability of an eligible student to continue the course of study, including the cost of child care.

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**Expand access for military children to the quality child care Department of Defense (DoD) provides by fully funding installation-based child care facilities and expanding awareness of the DoD fee assistance program.**

- **H.R. 840: Veterans' Access to Child Care Act (Rep. Julia Brownley (D-CA)).**
  - Would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide child care assistance to a veteran receiving mental health services at a VA facility who must travel to and return from such facility for the receipt of such services.
  ◯ Would require the VA Secretary to provide child care assistance to a veteran receiving training or vocational rehab who must travel to and return from a facility for the receipt of such training or vocational rehab.

– **H.R. 6489: To improve military family readiness (Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-TX)).**
  ◯ Among other provisions, if feasible, would require child care for each child of a member of the Armed Forces or employee of the DoD while that member or employee works on rotating shifts at a military installation. It would also require an update of a survey that assesses military family readiness to address child care, among other things.

– **S. 3800: Command Accountability for Military Family Readiness Act (Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)).**
  ◯ Would require subsequent command climate assessments concerning a military unit or installation to include an assessment of the extent to which the commander personnel encourage and support military family readiness, including support for military families seeking child care opportunities. This would include support for children with special needs and support for new parents seeking support programs, whether on or off the installation.

– **S. 3808: Child Care Affordability and Accessibility for Military Families Act (Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)).**
  ◯ Would adopt measures to improve the affordability and accessibility of child care for military families, including, among other changes, provisions clarifying the calculation of child care center fees; creating child care fee assistance programs in each branch of the armed forces; and allowing for adoption of recruitment and retention policies for military child development center staff.

**As part of public schools plan:**

- **Triple Title I funding**
  - No comparable proposal identified

- **Fully-fund IDEA**

    ◯ Would increasing funding for IDEA Part B (Sec. 619 excluded) between FY2020 and FY2029.⁶

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⁵Title I requires state educational agencies to coordinate with other programs providing services to children, including CCDBG, Head Start, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and requires LEAs to coordinate with Head Start agencies and other early childhood programs. Additionally, Title I funds may be used for a variety of state early learning activities, including operation of a pre-k program, including health, nutrition, and other comprehensive services, and incorporating high-quality early learning into broader strategies for school improvement.

⁶IDEA Part B covers special education for children and youth with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21. IDEA also contains two programs specifically designed to serve younger children with disabilities: IDEA Part C, which authorizes federal funding for early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities ages birth to three years; and IDEA Part B, Section 619, which authorizes supplementary grants to states for preschool programs serving children with disabilities ages three through five. Funding for programs that serve younger children is not included in this bill.
- **H.R. 4107: Funding Early Childhood is the Right IDEA Act (Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA), Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL))**
  ◦ Would increase funding for IDEA Part C and Part B, Sec. 619 between FY2020 and FY2024.

- **Fund community schools**
  - See “Expand support for community schools . . .” proposals above.

- **Double the number of psychologists, counselors, nurses, social workers, and other health professionals in our schools so our kids get the mental health care they need.**
  - **H.R. 3: Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act (Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ), Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)).**
    ◦ Among other provisions, would establish grant programs to support mental health and trauma services in schools, including partnerships with or subgrants to Head Start and Early Head Start agencies, public and private preschool programs, and child care programs.
  - **H.R. 2917 (Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI))/S.1584 (Sen. Bernard Sanders (D-VT)): Opioid Crisis Accountability Act of 2019.**
    ◦ Among other provisions aimed at addressing the opioid epidemic, would prioritize funding for Head Start and Early Head Start to provide additional qualified child care providers trained in trauma-informed care in states with the largest number of children and families affected by the opioid crisis in their communities.
  - **H.R. 3180 (Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL), Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI))/S. 1770 (Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL)): Resilience Investment, Support, and Expansion (RISE) from Trauma Act.**
    ◦ Among other changes, would expand access to services to prevent and mitigate trauma and establish statewide training institutes and centers of excellence for infant and early childhood clinical mental health professionals.
    ◦ Would provide funds for partnerships with Head Start and preschool programs to provide trauma support and mental health care for young children.
  - **H.R. 5569: Early Childhood Mental Health Support Act of 2020 (Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA)).**
    ◦ Among other provisions, would require HHS to identify and review evidence-based interventions, best practices, curricula, and staff trainings that improve the behavioral health of children to be delivered in or associated with a Head Start or Early Head Start program and that support staff wellness and self-care. It would also establish grants to Head Start agencies to implement such interventions, best practices, curricula, and staff trainings.
Build Safe Child Care Facilities

Create a new child care construction tax credit to encourage businesses to build child care facilities at places of work. Employers will receive 50% of the first $1 million of construction costs per facility.

  ◊ Would create grants to businesses not currently offering child care services for their employees to establish a child care program or contract with an eligible provider to offer such services.

Make direct investments in building new child-care facilities and upgrading existing facilities that are not accessible for people with disabilities, safe, or developmentally appropriate for young children.

- **H.R. 865 (Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA))/S. 266 (Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI)): Rebuild America’s Schools Act of 2019.**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would appropriate funds for long-term improvement of public school facilities, including improvements for programs relating to early learning and early learning programs operated by partners of an LEA.

  ◊ Would establish grants to increase access to quality child care in child care deserts, including grants for the construction, expansion, or renovation of provider facilities.

- **H.R. 4033: Water Justice Act (Rep. Dan Kildee (D-MI)).**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would increase appropriations for lead drinking water contamination abatement, including for lead testing in child care programs.

- **H.R. 6459: Small Cities and Towns Investment Act (Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN)).**
  ◊ Would establish grants through the Rural Development Innovation Center to local units of government with populations of less than 30,000 to purchase, construct, improve, or operate essential community facilities, including child care centers.

- **H.R. 7201: Child Care is Infrastructure Act (Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA)).**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would charge the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) with conducting short- and long-term needs assessments of child care infrastructure; provide grants to states to construct, renovate, or improve child care facilities, including adapting, reconfiguring, or expanding facilities to respond to COVID-19; provide grants to intermediary organizations with demonstrated experience in child care facilities financing to develop or finance child care facilities; and require the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to consider early learning facilities in planning and implementation grants under the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative.
- **H.R. 7327: Child Care for Economic Recovery Act (Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY)).**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would charge ACF with conducting short- and long-term needs assessments of child care infrastructure and provide grants to states to construct, renovate, or improve child care facilities, including adapting, reconfiguring, or expanding facilities to respond to COVID-19 and to intermediary organizations with demonstrated experience in child care facilities financing to develop or finance child care facilities.

- **S. 4277: Get Toxic Substances Out of Schools Act of 2020 (Sen. Ed Markey (D-MA)).**
  ◊ Among other changes, would amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to allow grants for healthy school environments to include state-licensed child care facilities.

**Facility investments will require high quality standards, including ensuring they are healthy, energy efficient, climate resilient, developmentally appropriate places to learn and accessible for children with disabilities, and high labor standards for the people who build the facilities.**

- **H.R. 1457: 21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act (Rep. Sean Maloney (D-NY)).**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would establish grants for the purpose of modernizing, renovating, or repairing public school facilities, including early learning facilities. The bill would include labor standard requirements; requirements concerning U.S.-produced iron, steel, and manufactured goods; and requirements for a percentage of funds (which increases over time) to be used for green projects.

- **H.R. 5185 (Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY))/S. 2876 (Sen. Bernard Sanders (D-VT)): Green New Deal for Public Housing Act.**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would require the HUD Secretary to establish a grant program for community resilience and sustainability projects in public housing, including the construction of child care centers and ongoing costs associated with child care centers.

  ◊ Would establish grants to states under the State Energy Program to implement covered building projects (defined to include projects that increase health and safety, energy efficiency, and renewable energy), including in facilities used to operate ECE programs and in day care centers.

**Increase pay by setting standards for the funding allocated under this plan and ensuring early childhood educators in child care settings and public schools receive similar pay and benefits to elementary school teachers if they have similar qualifications and experience.**

- **H.R. 1364 (Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA))/S. 568 (Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)): The Child Care for Working Families Act.**
  ◊ Among other provisions, as part of the revised child care subsidy program, would require states to describe how their payment rates ensure that wages for staff of child care providers are comparable to wages for elementary educators with similar credentials and experience and provide a living wage for all staff of child care providers.
– **H.R. 3315 (Rep. Deb Haaland (D-NM))/S. 1878 (Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)): Universal Child Care and Early Learning Act.**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would require compensation for child care workers to be comparable with the rates of compensation paid to employees of the corresponding LEA with similar training, seniority, and experience or are not less than a living wage, as determined by the Secretary.

**Provide affordable health care through their jobs or Biden’s new public option, federally-provided paid family and medical leave for up to 12 weeks, up to 7 days of paid sick leave, and affordable child care for their own children.**

– **H.R. 1185 (Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT))/S. 463 (Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)): Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act.**
  ◊ Among other provisions, would establish the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust Fund and allow eligible persons to receive an insurance benefit during time away from work (up to 60 caregiving dates per year) for a serious health condition; the birth or adoption of a child; the care of a child, spouse, or parent who has a serious health condition; the care of an injured servicemember; or qualifying exigencies arising from the deployment of a servicemember.

  ◊ Would allow parents to use a portion of their Social Security benefits for up to three months of paid parental leave after the birth or adoption of a child. To receive the parental leave benefit, parents must choose to either increase their retirement age or temporarily receive a reduction in Social Security benefits upon retirement, as specified.

**Provide stronger legal protections and the choice to join a union and collectively bargain by signing the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act and providing local and state government workers with bargaining rights, fully restoring collective bargaining to federal government workers, and also improving the conditions of many care jobs by signing into law the Domestic Workers’ Bill of Rights.**

– **No comparable proposal identified**

**Offer training and career ladders.**

• Expand opportunities to earn needed credentials by investing in high-quality training and education programs that lead to a certificate, as well as ongoing, job-embedded training and professional development through programs like labor-management training and registered apprenticeships.

– **H.R. 7635 (Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY), Rep. Susan Wild (D-PA))/S. 3445 (Sen. Todd Young (R-IN), Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA)): Early Educators Apprenticeship Act.**
  ◊ Would create a grant program for states to develop, administer, and evaluate ECE apprenticeships.

Footnote:

7Proposals identified below relate to federally-provided paid family and medical leave. For proposals concerning affordable child care, see the section above titled “AFFORDABLE HIGH-QUALITY CHILD CARE AND UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL.”
- **H.R. 8294: National Apprenticeship Act of 2020 (Rep. Susan Davis (D-CA)).**
  ◊ Would establish grants to expand apprenticeship program offerings, encourage employer participation, and align apprenticeship programs with secondary and postsecondary education systems. In the area of employer participation, the bill would encourage programs in high-need social service-related industries, including early childhood educators. Additionally, the bill would designate a portion of grant funds to be used for direct financial assistance to participants, including for the cost of child care, to support apprentices' ability to enter, remain enrolled in, and complete an apprenticeship.

- **H.R. 8317: To encourage employer participation in the national apprenticeship system (Rep. Lori Trahan (D-MA-3)).**
  ◊ Would establish grants to encourage employer participation in apprenticeship programs: that target individuals with barriers to participation in such programs; among small- and medium-sized employers; or that are in high-need social service-related industries, including early childhood educators.

- **Work with employers, unions and worker organizations, community colleges, the public workforce system, and organizations representing older Americans and people with disabilities and early childhood educators to modernize and develop new training programs for these jobs.**
  - No comparable proposal identified.

- **Provide funding for states to hire coaches for early childhood educators to continuously help them deliver high-quality learning experiences.**
  - No comparable proposal identified.

- **Create opportunities for workers to further upskill, while building a pipeline of diverse early educators, through the Biden plan for Education Beyond Highschool.**
  - See “Invest in . . . child care workforce” proposals above.