Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 4, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, Leader McCarthy, and Minority Leader Schumer,

We write today to urge you to prioritize the inclusion of both the Child Care is Essential Act and the Child Care for Economic Recovery Act in the next Coronavirus supplemental package. In order for our economy to recover, and for working families to return to work, the next supplemental package must include at least $50 billion in immediate child care stabilization funds and long-term investments to ensure access to quality, affordable child care for workers.

As we continue to navigate the devastating impacts of the pandemic, the National Association for the Education of Young Children estimates that 40% of child care providers could close permanently.\(^1\) This would be devastating for children, families, child care providers, and businesses. Unfortunately, the CARES Act did not provide enough funds to stabilize the industry and the Paycheck Protection Program provided short-term relief to less than 6 percent of all child care providers.\(^2\) Child care is too essential to fail. The upcoming stimulus must invest in child care so that we can stabilize and secure American families and our economy.

The House passed H.R. 7027, the Child Care is Essential Act and H.R. 7327, the Child Care for Economic Recovery Act in a bipartisan manner. This was a monumental first step. Passing those bills as part of the upcoming stimulus package must be a top priority so that we can begin the hard work of rebuilding and revitalizing our future.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to supporting your efforts to provide for the future of America’s children, economy, and early education and child care programs.

Sincerely,

Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress

Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress

Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

\(^2\)https://bipartisanpolicy.org/blog/child-care-essential-to-economic-recovery-received-just-2-3-billion-in-ppp-funds/
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CC:
The Honorable Nita Lowey
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert C. "Bobby" Scott Chairman
House Education and Labor Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Ranking Member
House Education and Labor Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515