



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David Valadao
Chairman
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adriano Espaillat
Ranking Member
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chairman Valadao, and Ranking Member Espaillat:

As you develop the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Legislative Branch Appropriations bill, in addition to amounts provided for the House Government Contributions account, we urge that \$20 million be provided to implement a childcare benefit program for all House staff, including district office employees. In addition, we urge the inclusion of the following report language:

Implementation of Childcare Benefits: The Committee recognizes that childcare costs are a major hardship for families across the nation and helping to cover those costs can be a major incentive to recruiting and retaining employees, including those of the House of Representatives. In addition to amounts provided for the House Government Contributions account, \$20 million shall be provided to implement a childcare benefit program for all House staff, including district office employees. Section 117 of Division I of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 has already established a framework for using appropriated funds for affordable childcare programs for employees. The Chief Administrative Office is directed to work with the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on House Administration to implement this program per regulations set forth by the Committee on House Administration.

Section 117 of Division I of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 has already established a framework for using appropriated funds for affordable childcare programs for district employees. Dedicated funding is necessary to jumpstart assistance to district employees.

An onsite childcare center located in the O'Neill House Office Building is accessible only to Congressional employees working in Washington, D.C. Meanwhile, district office employees are forced to pay out of pocket and find their own childcare for their children, creating major challenges for the working parents who help run our offices and serve our residents. It is long overdue that we correct this imbalance and support district-based employees with their childcare needs.

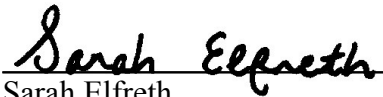
On average, American families pay \$321 a week for childcare, presenting a substantial financial burden. In every district in the country, families are experiencing childcare deserts and staffing shortages within existing childcare centers. The lack of childcare support limits the ability of our district offices to serve our residents.

We look forward to lending our expertise as working parents in Congress and working with the Committee on House Administration to develop a subsidized childcare program that meets the needs of all of our employees, not just those in Washington, D.C.

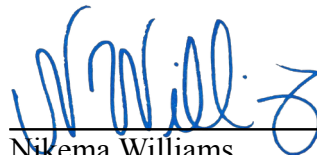
Sincerely,



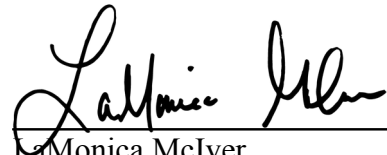
Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



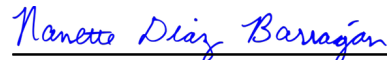
LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



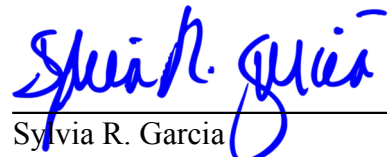
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



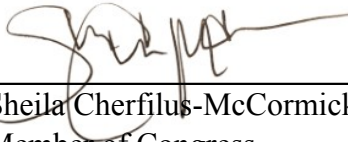
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



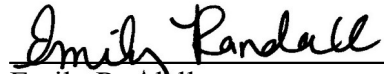
Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



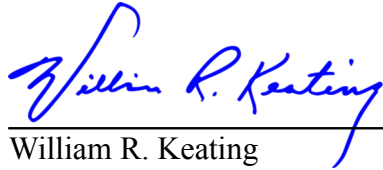
Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



Emily Randall
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



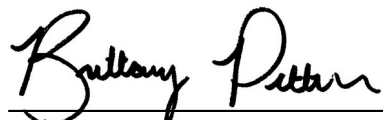
Kelly Morrison
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



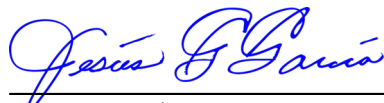
Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



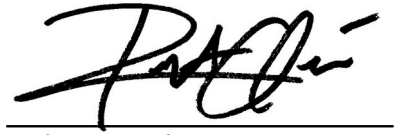
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



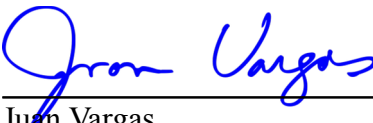
Maxwell Alejandro Frost
Member of Congress



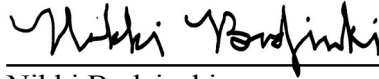
Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



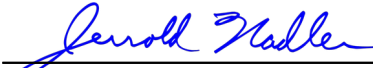
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



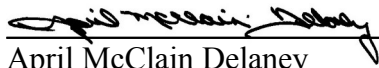
Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



Terrold Nadler
Member of Congress



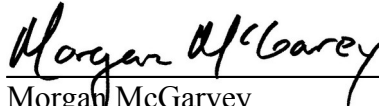
April McClain Delaney
Member of Congress



Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



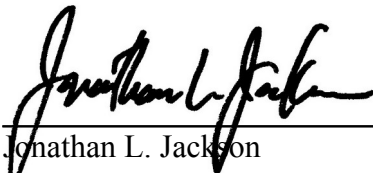
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress



Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



SETH MOULTON
Member of Congress



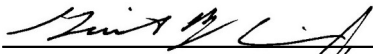
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



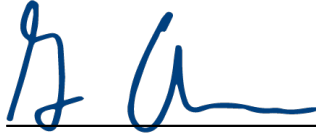
Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



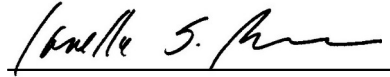
James R. Walkinshaw
Member of Congress



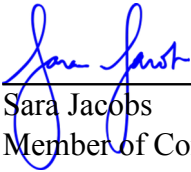
Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



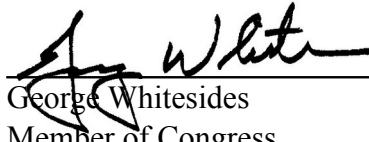
Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



Janelle S. Bynum
Member of Congress



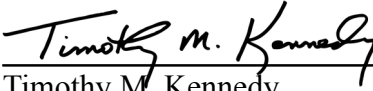
Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



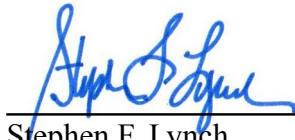
George Whitesides
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress