The Child Care for America Act

HOME GROWN

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The Child Care for America Act will be introduced by Representative Ro Khanna (D-CA) in 2026. The bill proposes a significant investment in child care for families with children under 6, including funding to build supply, address compensation, and make child care affordable for all families. The bill also supports family choice by helping stay-at-home parents and family, friend, and neighbor caregivers. **Home Grown is pleased to endorse this comprehensive proposal to address the crisis in child care**.

The Child Care for America Act has three parts:

- Title I: Child Care for America Grants
- Title II: Stay-At-Home Parent Child Care Support Program
- Title III: The Kin Care Program

Title I: Child Care for America Grants

provides $78 billion for investments to stabilize existing providers, attract new ones, and dramatically expand the supply of quality, affordable child care centers and family child care programs across the country.

- Covers the true cost of providing care
- Caps parent fees at $10 per day
- Raises wages for child care workers to at least $24 per hour full-time and $15 part-time.
- Protects workers' right to organize
- Provides $18 billion in supplemental Head Start funding on top of existing appropriations
- Also funds a $3 billion per year Facilities Fund to build and renovate child care spaces, a $750 million per year Home-Based Provider Training and Support Fund, and a $250 million per year Child Care Innovation Fund for pilot programs
- Invests new funding through the existing Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) formula — and explicitly protects existing CCDBG funding and access

Title II: Stay-at-Home Parent Child Care Support Program

provides $4 billion to support families with infants and toddlers in which a parent or guardian stays home to provide care.

- Provides a new $300 per month benefit for income-eligible families with a child under age 3 whose parent or guardian provides care
- The benefit is delivered through the tax system on a monthly basis
- Participation in the program does not affect eligibility for other Federal benefits including Head Start, SNAP, Medicaid, or housing assistance

Title III: the Family, Friend and Neighbor Kin Care Program

invests $5 billion into a formal system for families using family, friend, and neighbor (FFN) caregivers, grandparents, trusted neighbors, and other known caregivers.

- Requires the Secretary to establish a national base rate for the provision of child care services by an FFN provider that is sufficient to support a living wage
- Ensures that FFN caregivers abide by basic health and safety standards and background check requirements, and receive direct payment for the care they provide
- Establishes a definition for family, friend, and neighbor caregiver as an individual who—
  - (A) provides child care services for a child in a home setting, which may include the home of the individual or the home of the child;
  - (B) has a pre-existing relationship with the child; and
  - (C) is exempt from licensing under State law

Support the Child Care for America Act

Home Grown is proud to have created opportunities for FFN caregivers and stakeholders across the country to offer input to this bill. Local, regional, Tribal, state, or national organizations: please join us in supporting this legislation!

ENDORSE the Child Care for America Act

The endorsement form is hosted by Home Grown, in collaboration with the Office of US Representative Khanna. Information you provide will be shared directly with Representative Khanna's staff for compiling a list of supporting organizations. This request to endorse federal legislation is for organizations. This form is not for individuals or child care programs' endorsement. There will be more opportunities to engage together!