



## Child Care Subsidy Funding Cliff - Email Template

*Email your state Senator and state Representative and use this script to urge them to increase investment in the child care subsidy:*

Hello (your lawmaker's title and name),

My name is (first and last name) and I am a (child care business owner, early childhood educator, parent, etc) and a constituent of (your lawmaker's title and name). I live in (your town/city/zip code so they know you are a constituent). I am writing to voice my support for increasing investment in Michigan's child care subsidy for low-income families amidst the alarming news that subsidy rates will decrease on September 24th. The federal government boosted child care subsidy rates throughout the pandemic which brought subsidy payments closer to the true cost that child businesses actually incur providing high quality early education, but this federal funding has reached an end, and Michigan's FY2024 budget did not invest sufficient state funding to maintain these subsidy rates.

I urge you to support young families and child care businesses by sponsoring a supplemental bill that funds child care reimbursement rates at their highest level. Increased subsidy rates have kept child care provider's doors open and allowed them to increase their teacher's wages and job retention, which is critical for providing high quality early education. The state budget's rate reduction will take away program's abilities to pay their teachers a higher wage and maintain stable, high-quality care for little ones in their programs. It will force child care providers across the state to shut down, dramatically impacting the availability of child care for working families in every community. If the subsidy rate decrease takes effect, the Century Foundation projects that [1,261 child care businesses will fold, leaving over 56,000 of Michigan's youngest without high quality early care and education.](#)

Considering the urgency of this matter, please support supplemental funding to set child care reimbursement rates at their highest level, which will mean a wise investment for Michigan's current and future prosperity.

Thank you, and please reach out if you have questions!

(Your name)

(Also share how this change will personally impact you as a child care business owner, early childhood teacher, parent, employer in another industry, etc. Remind them that the stability of Michigan's child care subsidy has reverberating impacts across our economy and education system.)

Find your [state Senator here on their webpage](#). Find your [state Representative too](#).