

## **Child Care Subsidy Funding Cliff - Call Script**

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

Hello, 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). Please support increasing investment in Michigan's child care subsidy for low-income families, to eliminate the upcoming cuts to Michigan's child care subsidy that will go into effect without your action.

The federal government boosted subsidy rates for low-income families throughout the pandemic which brought subsidy payments closer to the true operating costs for child care businesses. With federal money spent, Michigan's 2024 budget will cut subsidy rates by 26% on September 24th.

Increased rates have kept child care provider's doors open, improved the quality of their care, and allowed them to increase their teacher's wages and job retention. The rate cut will wipe away all of this progress. The Century Foundation estimates that it will force 1,261 Michigan child care providers to close, leaving over 56,000 young children without child care.

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!

(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 lawmakers: state Senator search and state Representative search.