



Script for Calling Your Lawmakers: Support for a Child Care Educator Tax Credit

Use this template, and add your personal connection to this issue and why it is important to you.

Hi, my name is [full name]. I am a [parent, teacher, advocate, etc] from [your city] and a constituent of [your legislator's name]. I am calling to urge you to invest in Governor Whitmer's proposed Early Childhood Educator Tax Credit.

The tax credit would help stabilize an essential business needed by tens of thousands of working parents.

Highly educated, experienced early educators are essential for teaching children skills they will need to succeed in school and beyond. However, profit margins for child care businesses are razor-thin, leaving business owners unable to pay early educators competitive wages. As a result, early educators earn poverty wages that fall far below the rest of the education field. Low wages are preventing these essential businesses from hiring enough teachers to fill their classrooms. While classrooms sit empty, lack of child care is preventing Michiganders from participating in the workforce.

Governor Whitmer proposed a refundable tax credit to reduce teacher turnover and incentivize more Michiganders to pursue a career in early childhood education.

The Governor's proposal offers a \$1,000-\$3,000 refundable tax credit for child care, afterschool, and preschool teachers.

As your constituent, I ask you to consider granting this workforce a \$7,000-\$9,000 refundable tax credit, and expanding it to all staff employed at early childhood education programs.

In developing this legislation, please ensure that experts, educators, and other early childhood stakeholders are consulted so that it has the greatest positive impact on the early childhood field.

Thank you for your consideration. I will be contacting your office again to learn [your legislator's name]'s position on this matter.