Phone Scripts for Legislator Calls

Provider/Director/Owner Script:

Hi,

My name is [name] and I work at [program and location].

I currently employ [number] of early learning professionals in [community]. [Number of children] attend my center and receive high-quality care and education in a safe and enriching environment. We have [number] teacher openings, which equates to [number] classrooms closed. This means I have the capacity to provide care for [total capacity] children if I were fully staffed.

I am calling the office to urge the [Representative/Senator] to take action to end the child care staffing crisis by investing in our workforce. Can you pass along my message: Please support a $430 million investment in the child care wage scale and $70 million to support quality initiatives. We must prioritize the child care workforce. PA businesses depend on working families and working families depend on child care and early learning programs.

Thank you

Teacher Script

Hi,

My name is [name] and I am a [insert position (infant, toddler, etc) teacher] at [program and location].

I provide care and education for our community's youngest children, laying the foundation for all future learning. I also provide a place for families to bring their children so parents can go to work knowing that their children are being cared for in a safe and nurturing environment.

I love what I do but I deserve to be paid a livable wage. Unfortunately, the early education and caregiving sector has been undervalued and underfunded for many years. The state average for early childhood educators is $12.43 an hour.

I am calling the office to urge the [Representative/Senator] to make direct investments in child care teacher wages. Can you pass along my message: Please support a $430 million

investment in the child care wage scale and $70 million to support quality initiatives. We must prioritize the child care workforce.

Thank you

Parent/Guardian Script (currently attending your program)

Hi,

My name is [name] and I work at [job and location].

My child currently attends [program] in [community]. Because I have child care I am able to work with the confidence that my child is receiving high-quality care and education in a safe and enriching environment. Without [program name] I would not be able to provide for my family, which is why we need to invest in our early childhood teachers.

I am calling the office to urge the [Representative/Senator] to take action to end the child care staffing crisis by investing in the child care workforce. Can you pass along my message: Please support a $430 million investment in the child care wage scale and $70 million to support quality initiatives. We must prioritize the child care workforce. PA businesses depend on working families and working families depend on child care and early learning programs.

Thank you

Parent/Guardian Script – WAIT LIST

Hi,

My name is [name] and my child has been on a child care waitlist for [program] in [community] for [length of time]. This is creating a huge impact on my life. [Provide one or two details.] My child care provider tells me they cannot keep their classrooms open because of a staffing shortage and they can't afford to pay higher wages.

I am calling the office to urge the [Representative/Senator] to take action to end the child care staffing crisis by investing in the child care workforce. As you make final decisions on the state budget, please include direct resources for child care provider to increase their staff wages! We must prioritize the child care workforce.

Thank you!