

Option 1

To the editor:

As a proud [STATE*], I have been deeply concerned about the COVID-19 pandemic sweeping the world, our country and my community. The coronavirus has affected every aspect of our daily lives, and has consumed most of our attention and energy. Here in [TOWN/CITY/STATE], [SPECIFIC FACT SPECIFIC TO COVID-19**].

As a [PARENT/CHILD CARE WORKER/TEACHER] and as a Save the Children Action Network (SCAN) advocate, I have been specifically troubled by the virus' impact on child care providers, whose services are so vital not only to our children, but also to our community and workforce. Here in [STATE], emergency service providers are on the front lines, fighting for our community. Unlike many others, [SUCH AS MYSELF***], these workers cannot work from home, making child care a necessity.

That's why I was pleased to see that Congress recently passed a COVID-19 relief bill, which provides over \$4 billion in temporary relief for child care and allows providers to access emergency loans. This stimulus package provides crucial temporary support for the child care industry, and is a good first step towards ensuring that providers and employees are recognized and protected.

Access to child care is indispensable for tens of millions of Americans. When this pandemic is over, businesses reopen and parents go back to work, child care programs will play an integral role in meeting new workforce demands, sustaining local communities and rebuilding the national economy.

I urge [MOC] to continue to support robust child care assistance in any further stimulus packages that Congress considers. This funding would provide [STATE] with robust and flexible funding to serve our community and keep our workforce functioning.

In these uncertain times, our community must rally together to support indispensable industries – such as child care.

[NAME]

Word Count: 290

* Example: Washingtonian

** Example: Here in Seattle storefront are closed, hospitals are overflowing, and a curfew is in effect.

*** Only if applicable

Option 2

To the editor:

As a proud [STATE*], I have been deeply concerned about the COVID-19 pandemic sweeping the world, our country and my community. Here in [TOWN/CITY/STATE], [SPECIFIC FACT SPECIFIC TO COVID-19**].

As a [PARENT/CHILD CARE WORKER/TEACHER] and as a Save the Children Action Network (SCAN) advocate, I have been specifically troubled by the virus' impact on child care, whose services are crucial to our community. Due to COVID-19, child care centers must consider temporarily closing, but are faced with the real fear that they may not be able to open again when the virus subsides. In a recent survey of 6,000 child care providers, only 11% were confident they would be able to re-open without assistance after a closure of an indefinite amount of time. 47% of those surveyed said they would not be able to survive even a two week closure.

That's why I was pleased to see that Congress recently passed a COVID-19 relief bill, which provides over \$4 billion in temporary relief for child care and allows providers to access emergency loans. This stimulus package provides crucial temporary support for the child care industry, and is a good first step towards ensuring that providers and employees are recognized and protected.

I urge [MOC] to continue to support robust child care assistance in any further stimulus packages that Congress considers. This funding would provide [STATE] with robust and flexible funding to serve our community and keep our workforce functioning.

Our community must work together in this time of crisis. A strong child care industry is indispensable to our community, workforce and economy – now and when this pandemic ends.

[NAME]

Word Count: 271

* Example: Washingtonian

** Example: Here in Seattle storefront are closed, hospitals are overflowing, and a curfew is in effect.

*** Only if applicable