

## What They're Saying

**Olivia Golden, Executive Director, Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP):**

“Investments in our child care sector are enormously important and critical to economic recovery for providers and families of color who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. The Building Child Care for a Better Future Act would provide sustainable and permanent investments in the child care sector to rebuild to meet the needs of child care providers and serve families who need access to high-quality affordable child care. We applaud Senator Wyden and Senator Warren for their commitment to an investment that will support the long-term future of a child care system that is equitable and helps families, especially mothers, meet their child care needs.”

**Melissa Boteach, Vice President for Income Security and Child Care/Early Learning,**

**National Women’s Law Center (NWLC):** “The Building Child Care for a Better Future Act recognizes that child care is the backbone of our economy. This proposal invests in both the physical infrastructure and facilities needed for children to grow and learn, and the broader care infrastructure that ensures parents can afford high-quality care and providers are compensated fairly for the essential work they do. Both are essential for us to build back an equitable economy.

“Child care is infrastructure, and we’re grateful that Sen. Wyden and Sen. Warren are taking action to treat it as such. Long before the COVID-19 pandemic, the system was proving to be unaffordable for families, educators, and workers alike. The Rebuilding a Child Care Infrastructure Bill is an important step towards recognizing child care as a critical piece of our infrastructure by investing sustained funding in building out an increased supply of care, especially for infants and toddlers. ZERO TO THREE is proud to support this important legislation, and we look forward to working with Congress to swiftly pass this bill into law.”

**Christy Gleason, Vice President of Policy, Advocacy, and Campaigns, Save the Children:**

“As we work to recover from the effects of COVID-19 supporting and rebuilding our child care industry must be a priority. That’s why Save the Children is so pleased to endorse the Rebuilding a Building Child Care for a Better Future Act, and applauds Senator Wyden for his leadership in introducing this important piece of legislation with Senators Warren, Smith, Brown and Casey. Not only would this bill increase the overall level of child care funding to the states, but it would also inject billions of dollars into grants that would invest in child care facilities and, therefore, provide much-needed support to help the industry rebuild in the years to come. The child care industry is a key component to our recovery, and we have to begin treating it as such. This piece of legislation is a good step in the right direction.”

**Andrea Paluso, Executive Director, Family Forward Oregon:** “Child care is the work that makes other work possible. It is essential infrastructure, just like roads, bridges, and other public services.

“The pandemic has made it impossible to ignore what parents and caregivers have been saying for years: America’s child care system is broken. It’s time to rebuild a system that actually works for parents, families, and our kids: one that invests in our child care workforce and facilities, and is affordable and accessible to every family. These investments in child care infrastructure, combined with other investments in child care access and affordability, are an essential part of building back a better economy that prioritizes gender and racial equity.

“We are so grateful for Senator Wyden’s leadership on this issue and his commitment to making this long overdue investment for Oregon families.”

**Jenifer Wagley, Executive Director, Our Children Oregon:** “Our Children Oregon supports this bold investment in the children and families of this nation. Quality affordable childcare has a multiplying impact on our present recovery and our future well-being. Quality affordable childcare is an infrastructure investment that speaks to the very heart of the values we hold as a nation. Let us step forward and invest in the youngest in our midst, not just for the babies of today, but also for future generations.”