

AK

ALASKA

AK

7,970

Kids set to lose child care

209

Child care programs expected to close

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CHILDREN IN ALASKA SET TO LOSE CHILD CARE DUE TO CHILD CARE CLIFF

Beginning September 30, 2023, states will face a steep dropoff in federal child care investment. Without Congressional action, this cliff will have dire consequences. More than three million children are projected to lose access to child care nationwide. Seventy thousand child care programs are likely to close. This will have ripple effects for parents forced out of work or to cut their work hours, for businesses who will lose valuable employees or experience the impact of their employees' child care disruptions, and state economies that will lose tax revenue and jobs in the child care sector as a result.

Congress should act quickly to protect Alaska's children, families, and communities from the higher costs, reduced earnings, and productivity loss that will come with going over the child care cliff.



"With a loss of stabilization grant funding we will have significantly less money to use for staffing costs, and direct service work has incredibly high rates of turnover. We need help attracting and keeping staff without raising the cost of childcare in our community. We have 24,000 kids in our direct area that need care, and only 6000 placements available, less when staffing is low. The quality of care is also impacted by low wages and not enough access to professional development. In order to keep kids safe and in care, we can't go back to how things were before Covid."

COACH/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL

7,970

Without intervention, **7,970 children** in Alaska are expected to lose their child care as a result of the stabilization cliff.

209

209 child care programs are projected to close - making it even harder for families to find safe, nurturing child care options.

\$27 MILLION

Alaska parents will lose **\$27 million** in earnings as a result of being forced to cut work hours or leave the workforce.

As children and families feel these consequences, so will state economies. The loss of the federal funds will mean:

\$24 MILLION

less in employer productivity

1,063 CHILD CARE JOBS

Finally, the child care sector has been far behind the rest of the economy in recovering jobs post-pandemic. We hear stories around the nation about child care classrooms having to close because there are not enough early educators. An additional **1,063 child care jobs** are expected to be lost in Alaska, at a minimum.

