

SC

SOUTH CAROLINA

SC

49,335

Kids set to lose child care

618

Child care programs expected to close

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CHILDREN IN SOUTH CAROLINA 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 South Carolina's children, families, and communities from the higher costs, reduced earnings, and productivity loss that will come with going over the child care cliff.



"I am concerned about being able to retain my current staff. They are working so much overtime due to staffing shortages, and I have been able to give them bonuses from the stabilization grant."

PROGRAM DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATOR

49,335

Without intervention, **49,335** children in South Carolina are expected to lose their child care as a result of the stabilization cliff.

618

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

\$123 MILLION

South Carolina parents will lose **\$123 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:

\$129 MILLION \$5.7 MILLION

less in employer productivity

less in state income tax

2,681 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 **2,681 child care jobs** are expected to be lost in South Carolina, at a minimum.