CHILDREN IN WISCONSIN 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 Wisconsin’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 believe the childcare system as we know it will collapse when these programs end and that’s just the beginning. Staff will leave without their bonuses. Centers will close without staff and the extra funding to pay basic rent, utilities, and supplies. Parents will have nowhere to go with their children and have no way to go to work to pay their bills. Businesses will close because they can’t keep their employees and communities will collapse.”

FAMILY CHILD CARE OWNER/OPERATOR

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

- **$244 MILLION** less in employer productivity
- **$12 MILLION** less in state income tax
- **$232 MILLION** Wisconsin parents will lose in earnings as a result of being forced to cut work hours or leave the workforce.
- **4,882 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 4,882 child care jobs are expected to be lost in Wisconsin, at a minimum.

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