



Rhode Island Association for the
Education of Young Children



Right from the
Start

Chairman Abney and members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing to voice my support for **HB7317: An Act Relating To Education -- Rhode Island Early Educator Workforce Act**, which would continue funding for WAGE\$, which provides education-based salary supplements to center-based educators and family childcare providers working with children in an early childhood setting.

My name is Alexis Monteiro, and I am a Lead Infant Teacher at the Children's Workshop. The wage supplement helped me out when I was in a financial bind after my sister's passing. Childcare teachers are not recognized enough and don't receive the proper pay for the work we do. It helps the teachers financially, especially in this economy.

Sincerely,

Alexis Monteiro