



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 Claudia Rojas, and I am a Teacher's Assistant at WHSCDA. The wage supplement has facilitated me and supplied my classroom with quality educational materials. Not every program has the budget to offer a pay increase. This program offers financial support.

In my case, the funds are reinvested into Education; there is a tangible return on your investment.

Sincerely,

Claudia Rojas