



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 Lourdes Urena, and I am an early childhood educator. I love my work and feel proud to support children's development every day. but I also face ongoing financial challenges.

Access to additional income, such as the WAGE\$ supplement, would make a meaningful difference in my life. It would help me better support my family and continue dedicating myself with care and commitment to the children I serve. Investing in educators is investing in the future of our children and our communities. I respectfully ask for your support of HB7317.

It would be very sad if we could no longer receive WAGE\$, because WAGE\$ are a great help in resolving certain financial problems.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lourdes Urena



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 **SB2369: 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.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,