



Rhode Island Association for the
Education of Young Children



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 Malissa Winfield, and I am a Teacher's Assistant at Children's Workshop Foundation. This wage supplement has helped my pay off bill and medical expenses.

Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to make this possible and available for a group of men and women who work hard and love their jobs.

Sincerely,

Malissa Winfield