



September 20, 2022

The Honorable Richard Neal
Chairman
House Ways and Means Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Ranking Member
House Ways and Means Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Danny K. Davis
Chairman
Worker and Family Support Subcommittee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brad Wenstrup
Acting Ranking Member
Worker and Family Support Subcommittee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Neal, Ranking Member Brady, Chairman Davis, and Acting Ranking Member Wenstrup:

The Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) is pleased to endorse the *Jackie Walorski Maternal and Child Home Visiting Act*. CWLA is a powerful coalition of hundreds of private and public agencies that since 1920 has worked to serve children and families who are vulnerable.

CWLA strongly supports the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program, which funds voluntary, evidence-based early childhood home visiting for families from pregnancy through kindergarten entry. These services are important to the health and wellbeing of infants and mothers alike – MIECHV programs improve physical and mental health outcomes, increase education and employment opportunities, enhance school readiness for children, provide education and referrals for concrete supports, and support parents through early intervention screenings and service system navigation. Evidence also suggests that there is a decrease in child protective service (CPS) substantiations and out-of-home placements for families receiving home visiting services.¹

The bipartisan *Jackie Walorski Maternal and Child Home Visiting Act* will increase MIECHV funding to \$500 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 and double the funding up to \$800 million by Fiscal Year (FY) 2027, double the Tribal set-aside, codify the successes of virtual home visiting that have emerged, and dedicate a percentage of funding to workforce support and retention. These improvements will allow more children and families to benefit from the range of services provided by these programs, from education and information to help meeting basic needs.

¹ Barbara H. Chaiyachati, Julie R. Gaither, Marcia Hughes, Karen Foley-Schain, John M. Leventhal. (2018) *Preventing child maltreatment: Examination of an established statewide home-visiting program*. Child Abuse & Neglect. Volume 79, Pages 476-484. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0145213418300838>.



Thank you for your tireless efforts to collaborate across the aisle and reach an agreement on this important legislation. Because of your work, children and families throughout our nation will achieve better outcomes and experience increased stability.

Sincerely,

Christine James Brown

Christine James-Brown
President/CEO, Child Welfare League of America