

What's in *Build Back Better* for Babies?

Summary of House bill (November 3, 2021)



Transformative policies for babies and families:

CHILD CARE AND PRE-K

- **Child Care Top Line: Establishes Birth Through Five Child Care and Early Learning Entitlement Program** (*Authorized for 6 years*)
 - During a 3-year ramp-up, provides states a total of \$100 billion to expand subsidies, raise wages, and build supply and quality
 - Entitles all families with a child 0-5 and incomes up to 250% SMI who are participating in a range of eligible activities to assistance beginning October 1, 2024
 - Ensures no copay to families under 75% SMI; no family pays more than 7% of income
 - Pays eligible providers rates sufficient to provide quality services and increase compensation at a minimum to a living wage, with parity with similarly credentialed elementary educators
 - Builds quality through a tiered system and support for providers to progress; families must be able to choose provider at highest tier in 6 years
- **Pre-K Top Line: Provides entitlement funds for preschool for all 3- and 4-year-olds on voluntary basis** (*Authorized for 6 years*)
 - Provides states entitlement funding for universal, high-quality, free, inclusive, and mixed delivery preschool program following 3-year ramp up
 - Gives staff appropriate compensation, with parity with similarly credentialed elementary educators
 - Prioritizes expanding funding to areas of highest need

PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

- Permanently authorizes 4 weeks of comprehensive paid family and medical leave, starting 2024; progressive wage replacement structure; expanded family definition

CHILD TAX CREDIT

- Extends the enhanced Child Tax Credit in the *American Rescue Plan Act* through FY 22 (\$3,600 per child annually for children under age 6; \$3,000 for children ages 6-17)
- Permanently extends refund of full credit to families with low or no earnings
- Enhanced credit begins to phase out above \$150,000 for joint filers, \$112,500 for heads of household and \$75,000 for all other filers

CHILD NUTRITION

- Allows states and Indian Tribal Organizations to provide Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for WIC

HOUSING

- Provides rental assistance and funding to improve public housing

HEALTH

- In Medicaid and CHIP, extends 12 months of coverage to postpartum women and 12 months of continuous eligibility to children; permanently authorizes CHIP
- Includes numerous provisions to improve maternal care and reduce maternal mortality
- Provides \$7 billion for lead remediation projects to improve drinking water