



MEDIA STATEMENT

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DC COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY PASSES BABY ACT, PROTECTS HOME-BASED CHILD CARE

WASHINGTON, DC (July 13, 2023) – The DC Council unanimously voted earlier this week to support the [Banning Associations Banning Youth \(BABY\) Act](#). The vote marks an important step in protecting home-based child care and eliminates potential discrimination from condominium associations these providers face—despite home-based care’s many benefits for a community.

“We appreciate the DC Council for their actions to protect home-based child care programs by implementing protections for Black and Latina women providing this care, protecting home-based care from condominium associations banning child care arbitrarily, and banning associations from changing laws after a program has already been established. We want to thank Councilmember Brianne Nadeau for introducing the BABY Act, Councilmember Robert White and the Housing Committee for listening to pivotal testimony and their thorough deliberation, and the Committee of the Whole (COW) for their unanimous vote, —exemplifying their commitment to early child care in the District,” **stated Kimberly Perry, executive director of DC Action and co-chair of Under 3 DC.**

The BABY Act will protect home-based providers such as Maria Paola Miranda, who was forced to close her program in 2022 due to changes in her condominium association’s bylaws. The closure subsequently cost Maria thousands of dollars and left working families without child care.

Teresa Aspinwall, Director, The Multicultural Spanish Speaking Providers Association (MSSPA), and Cynthia Davis, Executive Director of the DC Family Child Care Association, who have both worked diligently throughout the creation of the BABY Act have said, “We want zoning regulations to be more inclusive for the establishment of family child care programs. Low-income families are the chief residents living in public housing and make up a sizable part of families living in private housing structures consisting of multifamily dwellings. DC families must have the right to choose where their children receive care and their early education.”

We commend the DC Council for moving us one step closer to a more equitable and just early childhood system.

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Under 3 DC harnesses the voices and power of District families with young children, early educators, health professionals and community-based organizations to shine a spotlight on the need for more public investments in early education and health programs for infants and toddlers. Together, we can set the District of Columbia on a path to creating and sustaining a high-quality, equitable early childhood system.