



**State Board of Education Resolution
In Support of Fully Funding the Birth-to-Three for All DC Act of 2018
SR20-1**

WHEREAS, the D.C. State Board of Education recognizes that early childhood experiences, beginning from birth to age three, set a significant foundation for the health, future learning, and behavioral development of children that will help enable them to lead healthy lives;

WHEREAS, research shows that the first three years are uniquely critical to the healthy development of children and access to high-quality care and education can also help parents remain active in the workforce and strengthen the local economy;

WHEREAS, the District is experiencing a shortage of formal early childhood education seats, with estimates as high as 28,000 seats according to a 2018 Bainum Family Foundation study¹;

WHEREAS, black and brown families disproportionately face barriers in accessing affordable high-quality early childhood education and health care services for their children;

WHEREAS, the Birth-to-Three for All DC Act of 2018 was signed into law and went into effect on October 30 2018, which provides the legislative framework for the District to provide comprehensive health and child care supports through connecting families with home visiting services, developing a competitive compensation scale for early educators, and more;

WHEREAS, the Act builds upon the District’s efforts to improve early childhood care and education, maternal health, and family economic stability through initiatives such as universal pre-kindergarten, paid family and medical leave, and more;

WHEREAS, the Act remains only partially funded; and,

WHEREAS, investing comprehensively in the education, health, and wellbeing of infants and toddlers and their support networks can yield major and long-term benefits for our city and its families.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that D.C. State Board of Education supports the full funding and implementation of the Birth-to-Three for All DC Act of 2018.

Date Adopted: 1/16/20 Signed: 

¹ Bainum Family Foundation (2018), *Early Learning Supply and Demand in the District of Columbia: Using Data to Identify Critical Gaps*
https://bainumfdn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Bainum_EL-Supply-Demand-Report_FINAL_Nov-2018.pdf

