



Testimony
House Committee on Appropriations

January 29, 2024

[HB419](#)

Early childhood care and education system; funding formula, nonreverting fund.

On behalf of the League of Women Voters Virginia, I strongly support House Bill 419. This bill strengthens the funding formula and maintain educator incentives - both of which are critical to improving the quality and accessibility of child care in the Commonwealth.

Only 57% of demand for child care in Virginia is being met in the current system. That's nearly half of Virginia's children not getting access to the care their families need. This bill would ensure that much-needed funds would be allocated towards child care and, once allocated would never revert back to the general fund.

As a mom of three spending over \$35,000 per year on child care, I urge your support for House Bill 419, a pivotal step towards securing a brighter future for Virginia's children and families.