



Governor Hochul Signs Legislation That Will Provide Parents and Child Care Providers Much-Needed Flexibility While Supporting the Development of New York Children

This weekend, Governor Kathy Hochul signed a bill to decouple child care subsidy payments from parents' work hours (A.7661 (Hevesi)/S.6655-A (Brisport)), ending the outdated rule limiting families' access to child care assistance to the exact hours when parents are working or in training. The Empire State Campaign for Child Care applauds Governor Hochul for prioritizing this important legislation. With its swift and thoughtful implementation, New York State will take a small but important step towards creating a child care system that works for children, families, and the child care providers they rely on.

Tying child care access to parents' exact hours of work makes it difficult for many working parents, including parents in a growing gig economy with fluctuating schedules, to access child care assistance. Even for families able to access care, the rule disrupts the stability and consistency young children need to learn and thrive. Additionally, this legislation will give child care providers another layer of much-needed financial stability to provide the high quality care and education New York's youngest children deserve.

The Empire State Campaign for Child Care [thanks](#) Senator Jabari Brisport and Assemblymember Andrew Hevesi, as well as Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, for their leadership in the passage of this legislation.

We look forward to continuing the fight for universal child care in the upcoming legislative session. By paying child care providers what they deserve and continuing to break down barriers like these that prevent families from accessing the care they need, New York can lead the way in building the best child care system in the nation.

Empire State Campaign for Child Care is a statewide campaign dedicated to achieving equitable access to child care in New York State. Founded in 2017, ESCCC counts in its membership nearly 100 organizations, along with hundreds of parents and child care providers from every corner of New York State. Every day, our membership is growing.