



Toby Sexton | Washington



Toby's story

Toby Sexton is a firm believer that early education is a great way for children to have a successful career in school and life. Toby and his wife Katie moved to Washington with their five children and found the dynamics of early-age child care are very different compared to Texas. In Texas, their four-year old child received Pre-K opportunities, but in Washington Toby and Katie were unable to find the same opportunities - so their youngest child had to stay at home.

Toby and Katie try to give their four-year old child the materials necessary for a successful start, but find it difficult. The couple want to find a way for families in their community to have the opportunities of early childhood education and child care. Together, they advocate for better regulation, affordability and access to more early education and child care programs.

Child Care Stats in WA
The cost of center care for 2 children in Washington is more than twice the annual cost of tuition at a four year college.

U.S. businesses lose approximately \$4.4 billion annually due to employee absenteeism as the result of child care breakdowns.

There are 306,651 children under the age of 6 in Washington who could be in need of child care.

Congressional Request: 2017

CCAoA is requesting a \$1.4 billion increase (over the FY 2016 level) for next year to ensure that nearly 217,000 children and families don't lose access to care, and also to help states meet the requirements of the 2014 CCDBG law.

We ask that you co-sponsor the "Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act of 2017" (H.R. 947/S.337), which would:

- Provide up to 12 weeks of leave for working families
- Enable workers to earn up to 66% of their monthly income while on leave
- Cover workers in all companies, no matter size
- Be administered through the newly created Office of Paid Family and Medical Leave

We also ask that you co-sponsor the "Promoting Affordable Childcare for Everyone (PACE) Act of 2017," which would expand and enhance the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) to reflect the realities of modern-day child care costs. The PACE Act would make CDCTC refundable and increase the credit rate, which would greatly benefit millions of working families struggling to pay their monthly bills as child care is the greatest expense after housing.