LIIF Applauds Congressional Leaders for Attention to Bold Child Care Legislation

June 25, 2020

The Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF) is exceptionally pleased to see such strong congressional support for the early care and education (ECE) industry at a time when federal support for families and child care providers is more important than ever.

There are currently two major pieces of legislation before Congress that would substantially improve the quality and sustainability of our nation’s child care programs:

- **The Childcare is Essential Act (H.R. 7027 and S. 3874)**, introduced at the end of May by Representatives Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Bobby Scott (D-VA) and Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), would create a $50 billion Child Care Stabilization Fund within the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) program.
- **The Child Care is Infrastructure Act (H.R. 7201)**, introduced in mid-June by Representative Katherine Clark (D-MA), would provide a $10 billion investment in our nation’s child care infrastructure over the next 5 years and provide dedicated technical assistance resources through experienced intermediaries like CDFIs.

LIIF strongly supports both of these critical bills and urges Congress to immediately enact additional ECE resources that strengthen all key components of a strong child care sector. These components include:

- **High-quality programs that are affordable** to families at all levels of the income scale.
- **High-quality ECE facilities** that are developmentally appropriate and ensure a healthy and safe environment for both children and teachers. The importance of these resources is amplified considering the necessary but costly facility modifications that providers will need to take to limit the transmission of COVID-19.
- **A well-resourced workforce** that is appropriately compensated and equipped to do the critical work of caring for and educating young children.
- **Business capacity building support** that equips ECE providers with the resources and skills they need to run high-quality, sustainable small businesses.

LIIF strongly applauds the introduction of these bills and will work closely with our partners in the National Children’s Facilities Network (NCFN) to advance legislation that invests in all components of a strong, healthy and sustainable child care sector.

For questions or comments, please contact:

Jonathan Harwitz
Managing Director, Federal Policy & Government Affairs
jharwitz@liifund.org