

# WHAT THE CANDIDATES ARE SAYING ABOUT CHILD CARE

What Democratic Presidential Nominee Kamala Harris and Former President Donald Trump have said about child care and early learning while in office:

## REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE DONALD TRUMP

*“I have also overseen historic funding increases for high-quality child care, enabling 17 States to serve more children, many of which have reduced or eliminated their waitlists altogether. And I sent the Congress a plan with a vision to further expand access to high-quality childcare and urge you to act immediately.”* — [State of the Union, 2020](#)

*“My administration is also focused on expanding access to high-quality, affordable childcare. Last year, I was proud to sign into law the largest ever increase in Child Care Development Block Grants to States. The States understand that very well. A lot of Governors come up to me and they thank me for that”* — [Remarks at the White House Summit on Child Care and Paid Leave, 2019](#)

## DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE KAMALA HARRIS

*“This is a critical issue for almost every family in our country — and the issue, of course, being the need for affordable childcare. And, frankly, in too many places in our country, it’s just too expensive.”* — [Remarks by Vice President Harris in Press Call on Affordable Child Care, 2023](#)

*“Unfortunately, childcare, again, remains too expensive for too many families in our nation. In some places, childcare can cost almost \$20,000 per child per year. Low-income families often spend one third — one third of their yearly income on childcare, more than they spend on their rent or mortgage. No family should have to choose between high quality care for their child or to give up their career or put food on the table.”* — [Remarks by Vice President Harris in Press Call on Affordable Child Care, 2023](#)

## REPRESENTATIVE RUBEN GALLEGO



Since 2020, Rep. Gallego has voted for legislation that helped working families access child care including:

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 which supported more than 225,00 child care providers serving as many as 10 million children, including 2,970 Arizona child care programs, impacting up to 257,600 children.

The CHIPS and Science Act which required employers seeking Commerce Department grants to guarantee affordable, quality child care.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which delivered \$3.5 billion in supplemental funding to the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) program, including bringing in \$88,005,835 to support Arizona child care providers.



Representative Ruben Gallego has supported and led legislation that would reduce the cost of child care for Arizona's working families, including:

H.R. 2425: Universal Full-Day Kindergarten Act, *Sponsor*

H.R. 6663: Native American Children Protection Act, *Sponsor*

H.R. 5433: Child Care Stabilization Act, *Co-Sponsor*

H.R. 2976: Child Care for Working Families Act, *Co-Sponsor*

H.R. 2886: Universal Child Care and Early Learning Act, *Co-Sponsor*

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MILLION**

Since 2023, Rep. Gallego has supported Appropriations bills which included more than \$555 million in assistance to child care and programs for Arizona families.

## REPRESENTATIVE GALLEGO ON THE NEED TO SUPPORT CHILD CARE FOR WORKING FAMILIES



In 2024, Rep. Gallego [highlighted](#) his ongoing efforts in Congress to drive down costs for everyday necessities and support parents who are trying to take care of their children. “No working family should have to spend more than 7% of their income on childcare, which is why he’s pushing for the Child Care for Working Families Act and robust funding for Arizonans through Child Care and Development Block Grants.”



In 2023, Rep. Gallego [discussed](#) the importance of grant funding from the Department of Health and Human Services to support Head Start projects in Arizona. “Early education is critical for our kids’ futures... I’m thrilled to announce this grant that will advance education opportunities, create pathways for success, and drive positive change for Arizona children.”



In 2021, Rep. Gallego [introduced](#) the Universal Full-Day Kindergarten Act and noted the urgent need to ensure that every American child has access to high-quality full day kindergarten. “As we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever to make sure that all students, no matter where they live, have access to high-quality education and start their academic experiences on equal footing.”