

Thank you for being an early childhood advocate! This guide will help you draft a personal story explaining to lawmakers why you support early childhood policies. **Use the following prompts as a guide to help you write your own story.**

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**Introduce Yourself.** Give your name, city/town where you live, and your connection to early childhood, e.g., parent, advocate, educator.

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**Identify your personal connection to our early childhood priorities.** Circle any of the programs, services, or legislative priorities below that you have experience with. Your experience might be a program or service that you have used or provided, or one you wanted to access but couldn't. From the choices you've circled, pick one that you feel most strongly about to discuss.

- Child care affordability
- Child care workforce
- Child care facilities
- Early Literacy
- EI/ECSE
- Maternal child health
- Doulas
- Early childhood behavioral health
- Home Visiting
- Relief Nurseries
- Culturally specific services
- First 1000 days

**Write 2-3 sentences about your experience with the program or services that you chose.**

For example, you might talk about a time you had trouble finding child care for an infant or toddler if you're a parent, or how you have struggled as a home-based care provider in a rental home as a provider.

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**Ask your legislator to support early childhood policies (see current legislative agenda).**

We're advocating for a broad range of early childhood programs & services. We want all of them to be funded so they can work together. Write 1-2 sentences that emphasize the importance of funding programs and services that support young children & families.

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**Restate your position and thank your audience.** For example, state why the policy will help kids and families, providers, the early childhood workforce, etc.

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