

Why Maine needs Early Childhood Programs:

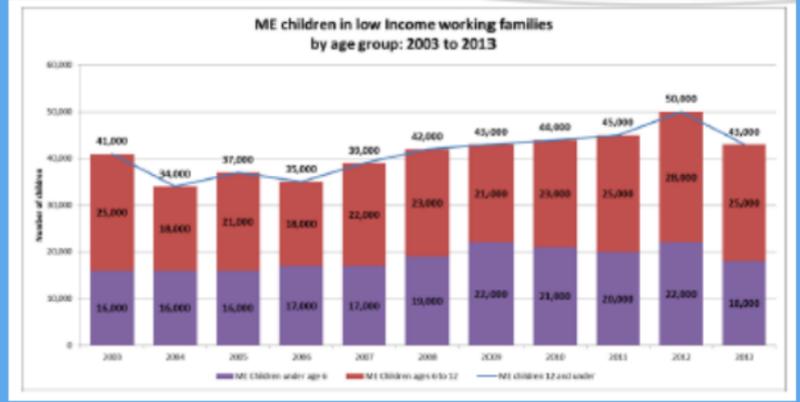
Support LD 1054 for Head Start Funding Now!

On June 8, 2015, LD 977, An Act to Improve Child Care in the State lost by **ONE SINGLE VOTE**. This was a HUGE missed opportunity, **but we have one last chance**.
You can be the difference.

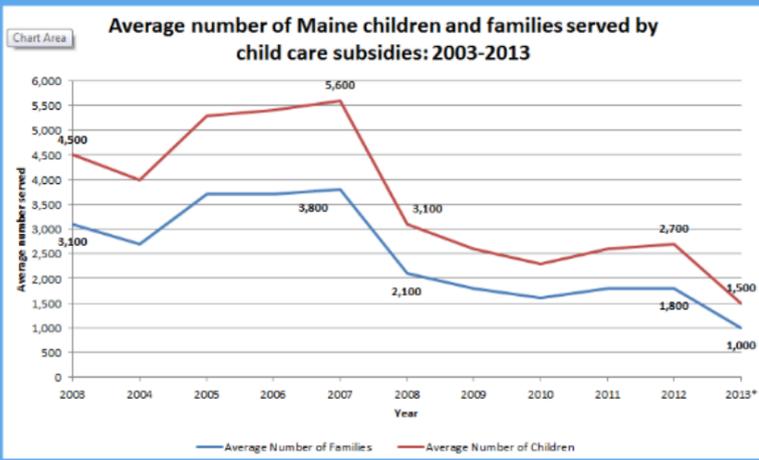
Tell your Legislator to support LD 1054 for Head Start funding today!

The Need:

In Maine, the number of children in low-income working families has increased over the past decade...



* 2013 data are preliminary
 Data Source: Office of the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care.
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/ccdf-statistics>



while the number of Maine children and families receiving child care subsidies has decreased.

* 2013 data are preliminary
 Data Source: Maine Kids Count Data Center.
<http://www.mekids.org/kidscount>

The Results:

Economic Payoff

In a his report, *Path to a Better Future*, Dr. Philip Trostel highlights four major economic payoffs Maine would see by making critical investments in these programs.



Government spending would drop by \$25K per child during K-12 years



More parents would be able to work, pay higher taxes, and rely less on social assistance.



Cumulative Lifetime Fiscal Savings & Tax Benefit to Gov would be \$125K per child - 4.5 times greater than the initial public cost.



Real Fiscal Internal Return Rate for investing in early childhood programs is 7.5%, conservatively

Community Payoff

Investing in research proven early care and education programs during the first five years of a child's life is one of the best crime reduction programs we have.
 - Phillip Crowell Jr, Auburn Chief of Police



FACT

Top national and state law enforcement officials have routinely advocated for investment in early intervention programs to decrease cycles of crime and long-term prison costs.



Taxpayers pay an estimated \$380 million in Prison & Inmate Costs a Year

Educational Payoff

A recent study on U.S. high school graduation rates named early childhood programs as one of the three major reasons for rising graduation rates in Maine.

Investing young...



prepares young Mainers with the skills necessary to succeed in the classroom



creates more focused students, so all children in the classroom can experience a better education



can alter the entire trajectory of a child's education.

Maine's kids and economy cannot afford another missed opportunity. Tell your Legislator to support Head Start funding NOW.



Sources/Further Reading:
 • LD 1054 An Act to Improve Child Care in the State: <http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280055732>
 • LD 977 An Act To Improve Child Care in the State: <http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280055629>
 • Office of the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/ccdf-statistics>
 • Maine Kids Count Data Center: <http://www.mekids.org/kidscount>
 • More information on Dr. Trostel's Research: <http://www.mekids.org/assets/files/policy/Final%20Trostel%20report.pdf>
 • Ready Nation: You get More Than What You Pay For: <http://www.ready-nation.org/wp-content/uploads/ReadyNation-ME-Early-Childhood-Report-2015.pdf>
 • Early Care & Crime: <http://www.fightcrime.org/issues/early-care-and-education/>
 • The Truth About America's Graduation Rate via NPR: <http://apps.npr.org/grad-rates/>