



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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*****PUBLIC STATEMENT*****

Statement of Lt. Governor Molly Gray in Support of Let's Grow Kids and the Vermont Business Roundtable's Call for Public Investment in Child Care

Montpelier, Vt. — This afternoon, Lt. Governor Molly Gray released the following statement in support of Let's Grow Kids and the Vermont Business Roundtable's call for public investment in child care:

"I'm pleased to stand with business leaders, the Vermont Business Roundtable, and Let's Grow Kids in support of their call for public investment in an affordable, quality, universal child care program. Access to child care and our workforce crisis are intrinsically linked. Vermont businesses know access to child care is not only important in recruiting and retaining employees but also vital to our overall economic viability. Across Vermont, we must make child care a reality for working families.

Hundreds of Vermont women and caregivers were forced to leave the workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic, contributing to nationwide trends. Nationally, 80 percent of those who left the workforce during the pandemic were women and many Vermont parents still cannot join the full-time workforce because they can't find child care.

I applaud Let's Grow Kids for their years of leadership advocating on behalf of children and families and to our socially responsible Vermont businesses who serve as critical leaders and partners in this effort."

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