

Dear Congress,

Renew MIECHV for five years without a state match.

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program supports voluntary, evidence-based home visiting models in all 50 states as well as many territories and tribal communities. Home visiting breaks multi-generational cycles of poverty and puts families on the path to good health, educational success and economic stability.

Despite strong bipartisan support and decades of evidence that MIECHV-funded home visiting programs work, Congress allowed MIECHV to expire on September 30. One funding renewal proposal would undermine home visiting programs across the country by imposing a dollar-for-dollar state match.

“[MIECHV] has enjoyed bipartisan support because it embraces a common-sense idea. It provides states with the resources to design programs that work best for their communities to support children and families. It gives parents access to professional expertise to help them improve their skills. When kids do well early in life, they’re on a good path to become successful adults.”

— [U.S. Senator Charles Grassley, R-Iowa](#)

Thousands of people – including governors, parents and home visitors – are calling on Congress to renew home visiting for five years without a state match, because:

Children and families are counting on Congress to reauthorize MIECHV quickly, with stability and for the long-haul. Two years of funding does not cover the two-and-a-half year – or longer – commitment that programs make to children and families. Short-term funding will prevent long-term planning, making it harder for programs to retain workers. And once the home visitor-family relationships at the heart of home visiting – the very relationships that make it so successful – are lost, the damage will be irreversible.

States do not have the money on hand to make-up for Congress’ inaction, which could force states to make tough decisions about the future of the program, including shutting down local programs. With nearly half of states facing budget shortfalls, requiring states to match funds dollar-for-dollar could also force states to divert or cut money from other crucial programs – negatively impacting the very health, economic and education outcomes members of Congress are trying to improve through home visiting.

Letters Supporting MIECHV

Read why MIECHV supporters are calling for federal funding for home visiting to be renewed for five years at no less than its current funding levels and without a harmful state match.

[The Home Visiting Coalition](#)

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

[National Governors Association](#)

[State Legislators in Wisconsin](#)

[State Legislators in California](#)

[Former Sen. Bill Frist](#)

[The Governor of Washington State](#)

[Current and Former First Ladies](#)

[Early Childhood Advocates in Texas](#)

[Louisiana Secretary of Health](#)

[Tennessee Health Commissioner](#)

[Law Enforcement Officers in All 50 States](#)

[Coaches and Professional Athletes](#)

[826 National and State Advocacy Organizations](#)

[CEOs of Home Visiting Models](#)

[Board Members of Home Visiting Models](#)

[Child Welfare League of America](#)

[AMCHP, ASTHO and Safe States Alliance](#)