

# CHILD CARE

## FACT SHEET

### Governors' 2013 State of the State Addresses: Mentions of Early Care and Education

March 2013

A total of 27 governors (as well as the mayor of the District of Columbia) referenced early care and education in their 2013 state of the state addresses—an increase from 22 governors in 2012 and 17 governors in 2011. These governors recognize that early care and education helps prepare young children for future educational success, provides crucial support for parents, and strengthens our nation's economy.

Governors in a number of states—including Alabama, Colorado, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington, and West Virginia—called for expanded access to prekindergarten. The governors of Connecticut and New Mexico and mayor of the District of Columbia highlighted previous expansions of prekindergarten. Governors in several states expressed support for efforts to maintain or increase access to child care assistance (New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and West Virginia), improve the quality of child care (Delaware, Mississippi, and Montana), or expand the availability of child care (North Dakota). In a number of these states, the governors' proposals are now moving forward in the legislature.

The excerpts from the speeches related to early care and education, along with links to all of the governors' complete speeches, are provided below.

#### **Alabama: Governor Robert Bentley (R)** **February 5, 2013**

[http://governor.alabama.gov/news/news\\_detail.aspx?ID=7529](http://governor.alabama.gov/news/news_detail.aspx?ID=7529)

...[W]e must give children a chance at success even before they reach kindergarten. Alabama's voluntary pre-k program once again is ranked number one in the nation by the National Institute for Early Education Research. But Alabama ranks a disappointing 33rd in the nation for pre-k access. Just six percent of four-year-olds in Alabama are enrolled in first-class pre-k.

**That is why I am asking for increased funding and expansion of voluntary pre-k programs.** Administered by the Office of School Readiness, local, voluntary pre-k programs may apply for grants but will be required to meet certain criteria. They will also be required to produce real results. We must close the achievement gap. Children and schools must be given every chance to succeed. I truly believe by allowing greater access to a voluntary pre-k education, we will change the lives of children in Alabama.

#### **Alaska: Governor Sean Parnell (R)** **January 16, 2013**

<http://www.gov.state.ak.us/parnell/press-room/full-press-release.html?pr=6345>

(No reference)

## Arizona: Governor Jan Brewer (R)

January 14, 2013

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/GS\\_011413\\_SOS2013.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/GS_011413_SOS2013.pdf)

(No reference)

## Arkansas: Governor Mike Beebe (D)

January 15, 2013

[http://governor.arkansas.gov/newsroom/index.php?do:newsDetail=1&news\\_id=3742](http://governor.arkansas.gov/newsroom/index.php?do:newsDetail=1&news_id=3742)

(No reference)

## California: Governor Edmund Gerald Brown (D)

January 24, 2012

<http://gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=17906>

(No reference)

## Colorado: Governor John Hickenlooper (D)

January 10, 2013

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpagename=GovHickenlooper%2FCBONLayout&cid=1251638211880&pagename=CBONWapper>

Last month Colorado received a \$29.9 million Race to the Top grant to support early childhood education and enhance early literacy.

Early childhood education is one of the best investments we can make to ensure Colorado's kids are competitive and prepared for the future. It was also a priority we about heard repeatedly in the TBD Colorado [civic engagement] process.

With your support, **we will serve up to 6,500 new kindergartners and preschoolers.**

## Connecticut: Governor Dannel Malloy (D)

January 9, 2013

<http://www.governor.ct.gov/malloy/cwp/view.asp?Q=516548&A=11>

I am proud that after a long and hard debate, we were able to say with one voice that the status quo is no longer acceptable; that when it comes to public education we can't keep doing what we've always done and hope for better results; that our kids can't afford it, and neither can our state.

We worked with an eye toward the future and made an historic investment of nearly \$100 million, from pre-k through high school, focusing on districts that we know are most in need.

Reaching kids early is critical to success, and early childhood education had to be a central part of reform. **We created 1,000 new school readiness openings statewide** for our youngsters at a time when no one thought that was possible. That's 1,000 more children that will show up to kindergarten on day one ready to learn.

We did that together, and we'll do more.

## Delaware: Governor Jack Markell (D)

January 17, 2013

[http://governor.delaware.gov/speeches/2013stateofthestate/2013\\_sots\\_address.shtml](http://governor.delaware.gov/speeches/2013stateofthestate/2013_sots_address.shtml)

We have built a strong foundation to improve our kids' education. Two years ago, the General Assembly made

the single largest investment in early childhood education in our state's history. As a result, **we are on track to increase from 20 to 80 the percentage of high-need children in child care enrolled in quality-rated early learning programs.** These are children who otherwise would have arrived at kindergarten well behind their peers. Now, thanks to you, they will arrive ready to learn. For them and for Delaware, that is a game-changer.

### District of Columbia: Mayor Vincent Gray (D)

February 5, 2013

<http://mayor.dc.gov/release/text-prepared-delivery-mayor-vincent-c-grays-2013-state-district-address>

As a game-changer, we've continued to make investments in early childhood education, including opening a major Educare facility in Ward 7 last year. **The District is now the first city in America where there are enough seats in publicly-supported early childhood education programs for all three- and four-year-olds.**

Furthermore, as touted in a DC Action for Children Research Paper, our early education investments are leading to higher proficiency levels in later grades. We will continue to focus on this important initiative as we expand early childhood education across the city.

### Florida: Governor Rick Scott (R)

March 5, 2013

<http://www.flgov.com/governor-rick-scott-putting-florida-families-first-march-5-2013-state-of-the-state-address/>

(No reference)

### Georgia: Governor Nathan Deal (R)

January 17, 2013

<http://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2013-01-17/deal-focus-foundations-strengthen-georgia>

Another foundation block for growing a more prosperous Georgia is education. Since we are talking about foundations, let's talk about our earliest learners, who build upon what they learn today for the rest of their lives. We have an outstanding pre-k program that has been nationally recognized. This past year, the National Institute for Early Education Research awarded Georgia its first 10 out of 10 in measures of quality; we were one of only five states to receive such a designation.

**In the budget for FY 2014, I have added 10 days to the pre-k school year, thereby restoring it to a full 180 days and increasing the salaries of deserving teachers.**

...My budget proposes to focus more funds within our HOPE Grant Program toward occupations where we know jobs are available and shortages actually exist. Currently, there are several thousand jobs available for individuals with a commercial driver's license. There are similar shortages in the areas of nursing and early childhood education. In order to fill these vacancies we suggest directing additional funds within our Technical College HOPE Grants so that over 90 percent of the tuition costs in these programs will be provided. That's putting your money where the jobs are!

### Hawaii: Governor Neil Abercrombie (D)

January 22, 2013

<http://governor.hawaii.gov/blog/2013-state-of-the-state/>

And then there is the greatest unfunded liability question of all—the failure to address early childhood development and education in Hawaii. Leaving our keiki unprepared for elementary school puts them at a crippling disadvantage in terms of being able to meet the demands the future will make on them...

...When it comes to how our students learn or how we treat our keiki, we need serious affirmative action in order to nurture and promote their well-being and preparation. This is the area of early childhood, focusing on best preparing our keiki before they enter our public schools at kindergarten.

An alarming number of our children are entering school without the basics needed to succeed in school including reading, math, and socio-emotional skills. Only 57 percent of the students who entered kindergarten this year had attended preschool.

We know that the early years of a child's development are crucial to set the groundwork for a child's behavior and lifelong learning. From birth to five years old is when more than 85 percent of a person's brain development takes place. Our keiki deserve to have a strong foundation. This is for them and Hawaii's future economic and community development and growth. Investing now in our children's early years of life will pay off dividends down the road in the form of healthy and contributing adults, reduced crime and incarceration, crime costs, and less dependency on social services.

These programs must be accessible, affordable, and voluntary for families. **The goal is to ensure all Hawaii's four-year-olds are healthy, socially developed, and cognitively prepared to learn and succeed on day one of kindergarten.**

Our keiki need to be immersed in a stimulating learning environment and have positive relationships with their families and teachers so they can thrive. Our teachers and children's caregivers need to be supported to help our keiki succeed.

Our approach is ambitious but pragmatic. It allows for all children to be equally prepared to learn. School readiness is the key to efficient and effective learning. By investing in our children, we are investing in our future as well as theirs. A school readiness program is the best possible start you can have in life.

Hawaii News Now is presenting the whole story thanks to a special TV program put on by the Good Beginnings Alliance. It's called, the "Power of Preschool," and you can check your listings for the dates and times.

### **Idaho: Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter (R)**

**January 7, 2013**

[http://gov.idaho.gov/mediacenter/speeches/sp\\_2013/State%20of%20the%20State%202013.pdf](http://gov.idaho.gov/mediacenter/speeches/sp_2013/State%20of%20the%20State%202013.pdf)

(No reference)

### **Illinois: Governor Pat Quinn (D)**

**February 6, 2013**

<http://www2.illinois.gov/gov/Documents/State%20of%20the%20State/State%20of%20the%20State%202013.pdf>

...[W]e've invested \$45 million to build early childhood education centers in high-need communities across Illinois, including in Carpentersville, Dolton, and Cahokia.

### **Indiana: Governor Mike Pence (R)**

**January 22, 2013**

<http://www.in.gov/gov/2013stateofstate.htm>

Our budget proposes an increase in funding for education, including full-day kindergarten, and fully funds teacher pensions each of the next two years. As a result, education represents 64 percent of all state expenditures...

...We must continue to expand educational opportunities, especially for those with the fewest resources, beginning with pre-k education.

High-quality early education programs can have immediate and long-term positive effects for our kids. Many communities across Indiana are already launching efforts to provide pre-k programs for at-risk children. One of the best examples is the Busy Bees Academy in Columbus, which serves at-risk and disadvantaged children in my hometown. Let's work together to expand incentives for Hoosiers to support this kind of innovative, community-driven pre-k effort for our low-income children.

## **Iowa: Governor Terry E. Branstad (R)**

**January 7, 2013**

<https://governor.iowa.gov/2013/01/%e2%80%9ccour-opportunity-our-iowa-%e2%80%9d-gov-terry-e-branstad-delivers-2013-condition-of-the-state-address/>

(No reference)

## **Kansas: Governor Sam Brownback (R)**

**January 17, 2013**

<https://governor.ks.gov/frontpagenews/2013/01/16/2013-state-of-the-state-delivered-by-governor-sam-brownback>

(No reference)

## **Kentucky: Governor Steven L. Beshear (D)**

**February 6, 2013**

[http://governor.ky.gov/Speeches/20130206\\_SOTC.pdf](http://governor.ky.gov/Speeches/20130206_SOTC.pdf)

But efficiency alone wasn't enough to balance those budgets, and so we made cuts to certain programs that hurt, cuts that none of us would have made if we had not been forced to make them to survive.

Well, we survived—better than most states—but now we must ask ourselves: What damage did we do?

Let me describe some of it...

...We cut funding for child care assistance programs that help low-income families return to the workforce and that allow relatives to care for children taken from their parents. As a result, for the next year and a half, we won't be helping any more low-income parents return to work. And because eligibility requirements will become stricter, some parents who are already working will no doubt have to quit...

...[W]e need to start looking at fully funding all-day kindergarten, expanding preschool to reach more three- and four-year-olds...

## **Louisiana: Governor Bobby Jindal (R)**

**Scheduled for April 8, 2013**

## **Maine: Governor Paul LePage (R)**

**February 5, 2013**

[http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Gov\\_Speeches&id=495850&v=article2011](http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=Gov_Speeches&id=495850&v=article2011)

(No reference)

## **Maryland: Governor Martin O'Malley (D)**

**January 30, 2013**

<http://www.governor.maryland.gov/blog/?p=8075>

(No reference)

## **Massachusetts: Governor Deval Patrick (D)**

**January 16, 2013**

<http://www.mass.gov/governor/pressoffice/speeches/0116-state-of-the-commonwealth.html>

After 20 years of education reform, our students are at the top of the nation in student achievement and at the top of the world in math and science. Teachers have more support and flexibility to respond to students' individual

needs, and standards and accountability are high. But achievement gaps persist. And they will until we go deeper.

Every educator knows that reading proficiency by the third grade determines future academic success. Because achievement gaps begin to form in the early years. And yet today in Massachusetts, only 61 percent of all third graders are proficient in English Language Arts. For African Americans, the number is 38 percent; for Hispanics, 36 percent. Nearly 30,000 infants, toddlers and other preschoolers are on the waitlist for early education opportunities.

**Let's ensure that every child in Massachusetts has access to high-quality early education.** We know from educators, from academic research, from years of public policy, and from our own experience as parents that investing in our children at a young age pays huge dividends for them and for our community as a whole...

...To support our education initiatives, my budget will propose that we increase the income tax by one percentage point to 6.25 percent. To make that increase fair to all according to their ability to pay, I will propose that we double the personal exemptions for every taxpayer and eliminate a number of itemized deductions. Making those changes gives us a tax code that is simpler and fairer.

### Michigan: Governor Rick Snyder (R)

January 16, 2013

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2013-2014/Journal/house/pdf/2013-HJ-01-16-002.pdf>

On budget-related items, I am not going into budget details, but I am going to tell you these are things that we will have in the budget that we think should be a priority for attention. The first one is in the Great Start Early Childhood area.

We have 29,000 students that are eligible for a program to get them into preschool. I don't believe we can accomplish all that and I am hoping to come up with creative ideas to get there. But, **I think it is important we make a major budget commitment to get as many kids as possible and get us on a path to getting all those kids in the Great Start Early Childhood program.** So I ask for your support for that.

### Minnesota: Governor Mark Dayton (D)

February 6, 2013

<http://mn.gov/governor/newsroom/pressreleasedetail.jsp?id=102-54689>

I want Minnesota to offer the world's best educations for all of our citizens, children and grandchildren. Educations which begin early in life, and continue throughout life; so that all of us can learn the skills, and relearn the new skills, necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing and ever-more-competitive global economy...

...Trying to cut our way to a Better Minnesota is a failed experiment. That is why my budget takes a balanced approach. Real spending cuts are partly offset by responsible increases, mostly for better education from early childhood through post-secondary and for job creation incentives. Both are critical to assuring future economic opportunities and enhancing our quality of life...

...In education, we have worked with DFL [Democratic Farmer Labor] and Republican legislators, business executives, and other civic leaders to establish state support for early childhood learning programs, a quality rating system, and scholarships for low-income children.

**My new budget would expand significantly early learning opportunities for children statewide.** My proposal to provide state funds for optional all-day kindergarten would provide a continuum of learning from early childhood into first grade and beyond.

### Mississippi: Governor Phil Bryant (R)

January 22, 2013

<http://www.governorbryant.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/State-of-the-State.pdf>

When it comes to early childhood education, we must be realistic. I believe that parents are responsible for a child's earliest learning, but unfortunately many have abandoned that duty. To address this issue, we should work within the existing framework of child care centers throughout the state and continue to assist in improving their efforts. By working with successful programs like Mississippi Building Blocks, we can develop best practices in early education. I ask you to fund \$3 million to continue the literacy research Building Blocks is conducting so we can help make sure children begin school ready to learn.

## Missouri: Governor Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon (D)

January 28, 2013

[http://governor.mo.gov/newsroom/2013/Gov\\_Nixon\\_delivers\\_2013\\_State\\_of\\_the\\_Address](http://governor.mo.gov/newsroom/2013/Gov_Nixon_delivers_2013_State_of_the_Address)

We now have a unique opportunity to build a better future for our children. We must seize it. And nothing will have a greater impact on our children's future than the commitment we make now to their education.

So in my budget, we increase funding for education. And we increase it by \$150 million. That's \$17 million more for early childhood education. That's \$34 million more for higher education. And that's \$100 million more for our K-12 classrooms.

Our children are our first priority. They are Missouri's future...

...We know the early years of a child's life are critical. Over the past few weeks I've visited preschool classrooms in Greenville, Nixa, Parkway and St. Joseph—local communities committed to giving their kids a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

And the first official business of my second term was to meet with leaders in preschool education. We discussed ways to ensure that every young child comes to school ready to learn, and ready to succeed. The clear consensus: early childhood education is a smart investment, with a big return.

We want every child, in every Missouri community—no matter their family's circumstances—to get the best possible start. **That is why, with an increase of \$17 million, we'll more than double funding for our Missouri Preschool Program, and put more money into programs like Early Head Start.**

Tonight, we are fortunate to be joined by the St. Louis Preschool Teacher of the Year, Linda Smith, of Dewey International School.

## Montana: Governor Steve Bullock (D)

January 30, 2013

<http://governor.mt.gov/news.aspx>

If we are truly committed to making our children's future brighter, we will invest in our education system. From before they enter kindergarten to the time they leave higher education, we must prepare them to succeed in a 21st Century economy...

... If we are serious about training tomorrow's workers, our commitment must begin not when our kids first enter college or the workforce, but rather when they first enter the world. We can't wait until kindergarten before we take an interest. The evidence is compelling: every dollar we invest in early childhood education returns up to \$9 to our communities. Early learning programs work. Children involved in early education do better in math and English, are much more likely to graduate from high school, and are a third less likely to be arrested as a juvenile.

Unfortunately, Montana is dead last in the nation—50th out of 50—in state investment in early childhood education. That's unacceptable. We can't expect the federally funded Head Start program to carry the entire burden. Some local communities have stepped in to make sure these youngsters are given a better chance. Great Falls saw that a modest investment in pre-k programs led to a dramatic shift in kindergarten readiness, setting these students—and our state—on a much better path for the future. Other communities have seen the same.

As a first step, I urge this body to expand the proven Stars to Quality Program and make the long overdue investment in school readiness. **I've laid out a plan that will create 100 more high-quality early childhood programs, getting 600 more families and 1,000 more children ready for school, annually.** It's a proven high-return investment that will produce long-lived benefits for the students and our economy.

### Nebraska: Governor Dave Heineman (R)

January 15, 2013

[http://www.governor.nebraska.gov/speeches/2013/01/0115\\_SOTS-Reading\\_Copy.pdf](http://www.governor.nebraska.gov/speeches/2013/01/0115_SOTS-Reading_Copy.pdf)

We are on the right path and that path starts with a quality education. Education is the great equalizer and education is one of our state's top priorities. We invest in education because we know how important it is. Your new Speaker, Senator Greg Adams, has been part of our P-16 Initiative to strengthen academic achievement for all students in Nebraska.

### Nevada: Governor Brian Sandoval (R)

January 16, 2013

<http://gov.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/govnv.gov/Content/2013StateOfTheState.pdf>

If children cannot read by third grade, their chances of graduating from high school become remote.

For pre-[grade] three students, I will propose increased funding for early education in the state's most at-risk schools. And I will ask the Legislature to act quickly because Nevada's students cannot wait another two years.

**My budget therefore includes an aggressive expansion of all-day kindergarten among the state's most at-risk schools. Twenty million dollars is allocated over the biennium for this purpose.** This means that by 2015, almost half of our elementary schools would have an all-day kindergarten option.

If we expect children to read by [grade] three, we cannot continue to ignore all of the data that tells us all-day kindergarten is a critical foundation for a child's success.

### New Hampshire: Governor Maggie Hassan (D)

February 14, 2013

<http://www.governor.nh.gov/media/speeches/budget-address-2013.htm>

(No reference)

### New Jersey: Governor Christopher Christie (R)

January 8, 2013

<http://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/addresses/2010s/approved/20130108.html>

(No reference)

### New Mexico: Governor Susana Martinez (R)

January 15, 2013

<http://governor.state.nm.us/uploads/PressRelease/191a415014634aa89604e0b4790e4768/STATEOFTHESTATEADDRESS.pdf>

For two years in a row, we compromised and passed good, balanced budgets. We protected critical priorities like classroom spending and basic health care for the most vulnerable. We protected child care for working moms and school clothes for kids in need. And let's remember that we accomplished all of this without raising taxes. Not only did we eliminate the deficit, we created a surplus. This wasn't a Republican accomplishment or a Democratic accomplishment. It was an accomplishment we achieved together.

The next year, we used those surplus tax dollars wisely. We put some in our state's savings account, increasing our reserve levels. We used some to increase funding for education, targeting reading and early childhood initiatives...

...We all know there are a lot of factors that determine one's path in life, but it's difficult to overstate the importance of reading by third grade. Again, a child is four times more likely to drop out if they can't read by the end of third grade. That's why I believe so strongly in early childhood literacy and why I believe we must do all we can to ensure New Mexico's children can read by the third grade. Last year I was pleased to make permanent the K3 Plus program, a program that helps struggling students with additional instruction and more help. **We doubled the funding for pre-k.**

Our reforms are being recognized nationally. New Mexico has competed for the federal Race to the Top funding, seeking money that will be specifically targeted to help our youngest students master the basics. This year, I am proud to say we were one of only 14 states to be awarded this funding—\$25 million to help more children in New Mexico get the help they need in early education.

## New York: Governor Andrew Cuomo (D)

January 9, 2013

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/press/01092013sostranscript>

We need more early education. Every expert will tell you that early education makes a difference and it makes the difference for life. The statistics are overwhelming. Children who receive early education perform 25 percent better on math by the second grade, 20 percent better on English, 30 percent are more likely to graduate from high school, 32 percent are less likely to be arrested as a juvenile. We should provide real pre-k for all our children. Currently we have universal pre-k but it's only provided by 67 percent of the school districts and on average, they only offer two-and-a-half hours per day. **We will expand the pre-k program to full-day pre-k, five hours. And we will start with students in the lowest-wealth school districts.** Let's do it today...

...The current minimum wage is unlivable. It's only \$14,616. The annual cost of gasoline is \$1,200. The annual cost of electricity is \$1,300. The annual cost of auto insurance is \$1,400. The annual cost of groceries is \$6,500. The annual cost of child care is \$10,000. The annual cost of housing is \$15,000 on a minimum wage of \$14,000. My friends, it does not add up. Nineteen other states have raised the minimum wage; we propose raising the minimum wage to \$8.75 an hour. It's the right thing to do. It's the fair thing to do. It is long overdue. We should have done it last year. Let's do it this year.

## North Carolina: Governor Pat McCrory (R)

February 18, 2013

<http://governor.nc.gov/newsroom/governor-mccrory-delivers-2013-state-state-address>

...[M]y administration is seeking to expand strategic partnerships between the education community and the business community. My budget will promote this philosophy in pre-K, K-12, community colleges and our university system...

...[W]e can and must do more to break down what I consider to be the four silos of education: pre-k, K-12, community colleges and our great universities. It's been too long since the education cabinet has met. You may have not even known there was an education cabinet. But I will reinstate and lead these meetings to develop a joint strategic plan and process to share resources, to share teachers, to share technology that puts both students and hardworking taxpayers first...

...The power to improve education and deliver real results is at our fingertips. Right now, you watch any four-year-old child learning, they're learning on technology, and they're learning quicker than any of us in this room ever learned.

## North Dakota: Governor Jack Dalrymple (R)

January 8, 2013

<http://governor.nd.gov/events/2013-state-state-address>

Our great economic progress has given us an opportunity that is rarely available to any state, and that is the

opportunity to literally create our own future. A year ago we set out on a state visioning process called 2020 and Beyond. We partnered with the North Dakota Chamber of Commerce and held meetings throughout the state to hear people's own ideas about how to create a better future for our state.

First and foremost, we heard about the great need for more and better child care services throughout the state. This has become a challenge for young parents who would like to contribute more to our workforce. We are already supporting the training of child care providers, but the real challenge is expansion of child care capacity with more facilities. Most child care providers in North Dakota are home-based and have found commercial rental rates to be cost prohibitive. We have tested a cost-share program to provide permanent modular facilities capable of handling 18 children in a custom-designed layout. It looks promising and led to our recommendation for **a grant program that will help private child care providers get into expanded facilities with very little cost for space.**

### Ohio: Governor John Kasich (R)

February 19, 2013

<http://www.governor.ohio.gov/Portals/0/2013%20State%20of%20the%20State%20Transcript.pdf>

You know, in the 21st Century when we have job opportunities, we need to make sure that we have the skills to take advantage of them and nothing's more important than our K-12 education system. We're going to reflect on the school reforms that we've achieved before we get into the details of what we're doing next.

We enacted Third Grade Reading Guarantee. I really want to thank you all for that. Look, in my opinion, you can't have a kid that can't read, a student that can't read at the third grade level pushed to the fourth grade. You just can't do it. Okay. Now, it's not good enough just go test them. You got to start early. You got to make sure that they have the skills starting, you know, pre-k, kindergarten, first, second, third grade. We will intervene and we will help to make sure these children can pass, can really have good quality. Because, you know, in the early years, when you go to school, a young child learns to read so that later in their lives they can read to learn...

...When it comes to school funding, we have one common sense guiding principal: Ohio must help those schools that do not have the resources to help themselves. Schools that are poor, or schools that have growing student enrollment, they need more help than those who are getting richer, or those that are getting smaller in terms of student population. Every school deserves help to meet the individual needs of its students, because on top of the basic formula we know that we've got to help schools who have children who are disabled, students who are poor, students who are learning to speak English, students who are gifted, or students who have limited access to early childhood programs. This school funding plan does all of this.

### Oklahoma: Governor Mary Fallin (R)

February 4, 2013

[http://www.ok.gov/governor/State\\_of\\_the\\_State\\_Address.html](http://www.ok.gov/governor/State_of_the_State_Address.html)

(No reference)

### Oregon: Governor John A. Kitzhaber (D)

January 14, 2013

[http://www.oregon.gov/gov/media\\_room/Pages/speeches/StateoftheState2013.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/gov/media_room/Pages/speeches/StateoftheState2013.aspx)

Far too many Oregonians continue to struggle with unemployment, debt and the rising cost of health care. That is the urgency you bring with you to the 77th Legislative Assembly. And that sense of urgency is at the core of the budget I sent you last month—a budget that reflects the priorities that have guided us over the past two years: putting children, families and education first; investing in jobs and innovation; and reducing the cost of government. It is also a budget built on the assumption that even with constrained resources, we cannot wait to begin reinvesting in children, in families and in education...

...Although we have made huge progress—moving toward a seamless integrated educational system from early childhood through college and career—we’ve not yet had the resources to seriously invest in our 40-40-20 goals [by 2025, all adult Oregonians will hold a high school diploma or equivalent, 40 percent of them will have an associate’s degree or a meaningful postsecondary certificate, and 40 percent will hold a bachelor’s degree or advanced degree]. It is clear to me that the entire enterprise of public education is underfunded at all levels. And it’s also clear that we can’t meet our 40-40-20 goals without a significant reinvestment of resources into the classroom.

## **Pennsylvania: Governor Tom Corbett (R)**

**February 5, 2013**

<http://www.pewstates.org/projects/stateline/headlines/pennsylvania-state-of-the-state-address-2013-85899448710>

...[O]nce again this year, we will be putting a record amount of state funding into basic education, \$5.5 billion, starting with early childhood programs and going all the way through grade 12.

Children enter this world as students. From the time a child opens their eyes, the world offers a wealth of learning. Those formative years, the ones before kindergarten, are crucial.

Pennsylvania currently spends more than \$348 million each year in early childhood programs. My budget reaffirms that commitment. **I propose adding another \$6.4 million toward our Pre-K Counts and the Head Start Supplemental Assistance programs. This money gives an additional 3,200 children, and their families, access to quality full- and part-day programs as well as summer kindergarten readiness programs.**

Why do we want to spend more on these programs? Because every child in Pennsylvania deserves an equal start in life, and I intend to see that promise kept...

**...My budget proposes that we assist more than 210,000 low-income families and enable 1,400 children now on waiting lists to receive child care assistance.**

## **Rhode Island: Governor Lincoln Chafee (I)**

**January 16, 2013**

<http://www.governor.ri.gov/ri2013/movingRIforward.pdf>

(No reference)

## **South Carolina: Governor Nikki R. Haley (R)**

**January 16, 2013**

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/01/16/2592664/full-text-sc-gov-nikki-haley-state.html>

(No reference)

## **South Dakota: Governor Dennis Daugaard (R)**

**January 8, 2013**

<http://sd.gov/governor/docs/2013%20State%20of%20State.pdf>

(No reference)

## **Tennessee: Governor Bill Haslam (R)**

**January 28, 2013**

<http://www.tn.gov/stateofthestate/files/2013/01-28-13%20State%20of%20the%20State%20Address%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

(No reference)

## Texas: Governor Rick Perry (R)

January 29, 2013

<http://governor.state.tx.us/news/speech/18095/>

(No reference)

## Utah: Governor Gary Richard Herbert (R)

January 30, 2013

<http://www.utah.gov/governor/docs/stateofstate/2013StateoftheStateAddress.pdf>

(No reference)

## Vermont: Governor Peter Shumlin (D)

January 10, 2013

<http://governor.vermont.gov/blog-gov-shumlin-second-inaugural-address-state-of-the-state-january-10-2013>

Our education system, from prekindergarten to higher education, is the state's greatest economic development tool...

...Now is the time to take a good education system in Vermont and make it the best. To get us there, let's take action...

First, it is long past time for us to put our money where our mouths have been, and strengthen our commitment to universal early childhood education.

Let's remember, while 90 percent of a child's brain is developed in the first 36 months of life, only 4 percent of our education dollars nationally are spent during this critical time. The evidence is overwhelming: the earlier we invest in our children, the healthier, more productive lives they will have. Taxpayers win too, since every dollar we invest in early childhood education saves seven dollars in the future.

Today, I propose to make the largest single investment in early childhood education in Vermont's history. **We will redirect \$17 million from the state's Earned Income Tax Credit to make high-quality child care affordable to hardworking lower-income Vermonters.** There is no bigger obstacle to Vermont parents who want to work or advance than the high cost of quality child care. This bold action will nearly double the state's contribution to child care for low-income families.

**My administration will also ensure financial support to communities that initiate publicly funded preschool programs where they do not now exist.** Our budget will include resources for first-year start-up costs, after which communities offering preschool programs will be eligible for reimbursement through the education fund.

I will invite all early childhood stakeholders to a summit to build and embrace our vision for the success of our children and their families. I have also directed the Agency of Human Services to implement an integrated plan for health promotion and prevention, beginning before birth, to ensure that all children reach their full potential.

We can do more to ensure that all our children are healthy and prepared to learn. When Sue Maguire was principal at Bennington's Molly Stark elementary school, she took the resources she had available, leveraged them where she could, and provided her students a full-service health center right at the school. The center provides pediatric, psychological, dental, nutrition and preschool services on site. I have asked Sue to work with my Secretary of Human Services and my Secretary of Education to bring that same ingenuity to schools across the state.

It is well past time, to move aggressively on early childhood education. Words are nice—action is better. Let's take it, together.

## Virginia: Governor Robert McDonnell (R)

January 9, 2013

<http://www.governor.virginia.gov/news/viewRelease.cfm?id=1591>

(No reference)

## Washington: Governor Jay Inslee (D)

January 16, 2013

[http://www.governor.wa.gov/news/speeches/20130116\\_inaugural.pdf](http://www.governor.wa.gov/news/speeches/20130116_inaugural.pdf)

We need to invest more where we get the biggest return, in high-quality early learning programs. We need a system that aligns from early learning to kindergarten to 12th grade to our universities.

## West Virginia: Governor Earl Ray Tomblin (D)

February 13, 2013

<http://www.governor.wv.gov/media/pressreleases/2013/Documents/2013%20State%20of%20State%20Final.pdf>

...[T]here are other positive things we can say about our education system: like having an improved teacher evaluation program, high ranks for funding and equity, and a nationally recognized four-year-old preschool program...

...Education in West Virginia must change. And that change begins now. This change must begin with our youngest children...

...[A]lthough our four-year-old kindergarten program has high ratings, only 68 percent of eligible students attend.

**I will introduce legislation requiring every county, within three years, to offer full-day four-year-old preschool.**

...I will support the efforts of the Benedum Foundation to help establish a process for defining, once and for all, the components and costs of a quality birth-through-five program.

And finally, because of declining federal dollars, we have a shortfall in child care subsidies. **Access to child care not only assures young children receive quality early childhood development, but it helps parents keep their jobs. I believe in this program, and for that reason, I propose a supplemental appropriation of \$17 million to preserve the current program.**

## Wisconsin: Governor Scott Walker (R)

January 15, 2013

<http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/Default.aspx?Page=b5a8a449-5df3-49fa-af83-6eb2e3fdbb86>

(No reference)

## Wyoming: Governor Matthew Mead (R)

January 9, 2013

<http://governor.wy.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/2013%20State%20of%20the%20State%20Address.pdf>

(No reference)