

## Early Childhood Day at the Capitol 2022 Legislator Meetings Outline

Meeting Lead:

- I. Allow Legislator/s to introduce themselves
- II. Welcome and Introductions of those who will speak (we will provide legislators with the names of ALL participants in advance but if it is a small group 6-8 max participants should introduce themselves).
  - a. Name
  - b. If you work and/or live in the district
  - c. Workplace, If applicable
  - d. Parent of child, if applicable
  - e. FTF RPC member, if applicable
- III. Brief explanation of why we requested the meeting/ What is AZECA Facilitator (example below)

“Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_, I am here with the Arizona Early Childhood Alliance (AZECA) today to talk to you about the importance of investing in early childhood. AZECA is an alliance of 55 statewide organizations that share an interest in assuring that all of Arizona’s Children have access to high quality early learning opportunities. We know that when children have that chance, they are more likely to be ready to start Kindergarten and to succeed in school and in life. Across the state, the importance of early childhood experiences is gaining recognition and voters know that investing in early childhood is a good return on investment. The COVID pandemic has only highlighted how things like the availability of child care is so essential to our recovery. Today, I have a team of people here who also care about early childhood who would like to share their experiences as parents, providers, and community stakeholders with you.” INTRODUCE FIRST PERSON:

- IV. Strolling Thunder Family tells their story
- V. FTF RPC member tells their story
- VI. Other designated participant tells their story
- VII. Ask Legislator to talk about any connections THEY have to EC
- VIII. Facilitator Makes the Ask. (example below)

“AZECA has two legislative priorities this session, including:

- **Support expansion of home visitation programs**, such as HB2111 which is a \$10 million dollar Healthy Families appropriation.
- **Support bills that protect victims of child abuse or neglect by ensuring they remain safely with supportive family members instead of entering foster care**, such as HB2274- which would raise the monthly amount to \$300 per child, promoting those

family connections and bringing family caregivers closer to the amount paid to foster families- and HB2084 - a child's placement with family is often delayed due to DCS fingerprint requirements. HB2084 which allows DCS to waive such requirements when safe to do so.

- IX. If time permits, additional discussion- (Please see talking points on one-pager for additional comments and information to discuss on each legislative ask.)

REMEMBER TO GET A SCREEN SHOT OF YOUR MEETING, if everyone agrees.

- X. Thank the legislator and end the meeting.

AFTER THE VISIT IS OVER:

- Post "thank you" social media content and pictures on respective social media platforms.
- Send a "thank you" email to the legislator using the web portal platform.