



WHEREAS, there are 384,120 children birth through age 5 in Colorado, 22% of whom are considered low-income, and over 60 of children under the age of 6 have all available parents in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, children’s cognitive, physical, social and emotional, and language and literacy development are built on a foundation of children’s positive interactions with adults, peers, and their environment; and

WHEREAS, high–quality early childhood education depends on high–quality early childhood educators who ensure that children, supported by families, have the early experiences they need for a strong foundation; and

WHEREAS, at the same time, the average cost of one year of center-based childcare for an infant in Colorado averages \$19,573 and \$16,307 for toddlers; and

WHEREAS, young children need developmentally appropriate, accessible, and available early care and education settings; and

WHEREAS, working families need sufficient high–quality childcare spaces beginning at birth to be available in the community; and

WHEREAS, early childhood professionals need opportunities to acquire critical skills, knowledge, and competencies through pathways to credentials and higher education degrees, without incurring college debt;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the period of time between April 5 and April 11, 2025, as

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this fifth day of April, 2025



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis  
Governor