October 25, 2022

Mr. Richard Gonzales
Director, Interagency and Special Initiatives
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Administration for Children & Families
Office of Early Childhood Development
330 C Street, SW
Suite 4012E
Washington, D.C., 20201

Dear Director Gonzales:

We write regarding the Arizona Department of Education's application for the Preschool Development Birth Through 5 Renewal Grant (PDG B-5 Renewal Grant). This funding would allow the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to continue supporting and strengthening the early childhood workforce, enhancing quality, expanding access to early childhood services, and supporting the creation of early learning experiences for all Arizonans.

The Arizona Department of Education and key system partners are committed to using the PDG B-5 Renewal Grant investment to leverage federal, state, and local early care and education initiatives to establish and enhance the state's birth through five early childhood care and education system. This grant will support and address the changing needs of families and children and encourage family engagement. Additionally, Arizona's early childhood education partners are committed to providing more low-income and disadvantaged youth with quality early care and education. Federal funds will help the ADE continue to work with statewide partners to expand resources for Arizona's young children.
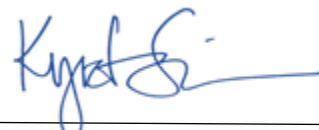
We appreciate the support you have shown Arizona projects. Arizona has previously received the Preschool Development Grant, and now seeks to build on its progress. This additional PDG B-5 Renewal Grant funding would help provide critical funding to our state's early childhood education system.

In accordance with all existing agency rules, regulations, and ethical guidelines, we respectfully ask that you give this proposal full and fair consideration as you make this important funding decision.

Sincerely,

MARK KELLY
United States Senator

KYRSTEN SINEMA
United States Senator