

June 16, 2020

Members of the Montgomery County Council

In re: **Emergency Funding for Early Care and Education Initiative Recovery Fund --
Testimony by the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County**

Dear County Council Members:

The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County strongly supports both (1) maintaining a climate of business vitality and (2) the provision of high-quality childcare and early education programs. We recognize that enabling childcare centers to reopen is essential to (a) the development of the children they serve and (b) their parents' ability to go back to work.

Montgomery County did not have an adequate supply of high-quality, affordable, and accessible childcare before the pandemic; to lose any of those providers to the pandemic would be a significant setback.

Therefore, we strongly support the proposed appropriation of \$10 million to provide reopening expenses for licensed childcare programs, registered family childcare homes, and letter of compliance programs.

Yours truly,

Diane Hibino and Kathy McGuire
Co-presidents, LWVMC