



July 23, 2024

The Honorable Jason Smith  
Chairman  
U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member  
U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Darrin LaHood  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Work and Welfare  
U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Danny Davis  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Work and Welfare  
U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Neal, Chairman LaHood, and Ranking Member Davis:

The Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) is pleased to endorse the bipartisan *Protecting America's Children by Strengthening Families Act*, which would invest new resources in Title IV-B of the Social Security Act and provide needed policy improvements in several key areas.

Over the past year, your bipartisan leadership has brought critical attention to the needs of children, youth and families served by the child welfare system. CWLA applauds the Chairmen and Ranking Members for increasing funding for the Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) program by \$85M per year, including a \$10M increase for both the Court Improvement Program (CIP) and the Regional Partnership Grants (RPGs), two programs that provide important training, resources and supports for families with child welfare involvement. Child welfare funding has declined over the past three decades, both in real dollars and in inflation-adjusted levels, and this investment is a critical first step in addressing this decline.

CWLA is also grateful for the attention to other important concerns, such as supporting the child welfare workforce, addressing poverty by providing concrete and economic supports for families, and additional support for Indian tribes and tribal communities. This legislation includes positive changes and investments in each of these areas, and CWLA looks forward to collaborating with the Committee to build on and maximize this vital progress.

Thank you for your continued bipartisan leadership in supporting children and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Spears", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Linda Spears  
President/CEO, Child Welfare League of America