



HB24-1312 State Income Tax Credit for Careworkers

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My name is Alison Friedman Phillips and I am the director of programs, policy, & advocacy at The Women's Foundation of Colorado. Thank you for this opportunity to share our perspective on this bill. I want to also thank the sponsors of this bill for their leadership on this important issue. We urge the committee to vote yes on 1312.

Rosalynn Carter said:

“There are only four kinds of people in the world. Those who have been caregivers. Those who are currently caregivers. Those who will be caregivers, and those who will need a caregiver.”

The Women's Foundation is the only statewide, community-funded foundation protecting the progress and advancing gender, racial, and economic equity for all Colorado women. There are countless barriers that prevent women, especially women of color, from advancing economically - such as limited access to housing, transportation, and care. This includes care of all types – child care, home health care, or other types of personal care. I think that all of us know and have seen in our lives how much caregiving in particular impacts women's economic mobility. Today you have an opportunity to address some of these barriers.

The caregiving workforce is a vital part of our economy and is chronically undervalued. For many years The Women's Foundation has advocated for policies which bolster the early care and education workforce which is made up of women and predominantly women of color. By passing this tax credit our state will be able to provide some relief to the individuals who passionately care for so many of the fellow members of our community. Given the makeup of the workforce, this tax credit will not only support individual caregivers but also their families.

Last month a report called “[In This Together](#)” was released with the goal of finding bipartisan policy solutions to support families with young children in America. The cross-partisan, cross-sector group found that putting cash in the hands of the families that need it most is one of the most effective ways to combat poverty. The caregiver tax credit is a great example of a policy that addresses the top recommendations of the report.

I thank you for your time and I urge you to vote yes.

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