

# thread's State Policy Agenda

## CHILD CARE IS CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE: HELP BUILD A STRONGER FUTURE FOR ALASKA

2026

### Priority For FY27

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE **Annual ROOTS Award**

A recruitment and retention stipend for early childhood educators

**Please fund in the  
FY27 Operating Budget!**

#### About the ROOTS Award

- First State funding by Gov. Parnell in 2011
- Funded by legislature and approved by Gov. Dunleavy in 2023
- Proven effective to recruit and retain early educators and incentivize high-quality care
- Recommended by Governor's Child Care Task Force
- Chosen as a top priority by Alaska Early Childhood Advocacy group and 660 child care workers and families surveyed
- **Critical budget item needed to stabilize Alaska's child care sector**

### Progress Made

A huge thank you to the Alaska Legislature and the Governor for approving historic policies and investments for child care in the last two years!



#### SMALL BUSINESSES

Operating Grants  
for Child Care

Passed in 2025;  
Being implemented  
by DOH in 2026



#### FAMILIES

**SB95: Expanded  
Eligibility for Child Care  
Financial Assistance**

Passed in 2025;  
Being implemented  
by DOH in 2026



#### CHILD CARE TAX CREDITS

**SB96: Corporate and  
Business Tax Credits for  
Child Care Spending**

Passed in 2025;  
Active now

**Thank you for your support!**