



Children First Action Fund General 2022 Survey Results

The Children First Action Fund is surveying all candidates for Pennsylvania House and Senate to learn more about their views on issues affecting the lives of children. We invite you to learn more by reviewing their responses below; by contacting their campaigns; and by following them on social media. Let me know your views on the importance of ensuring young children in Pennsylvania get the early education supports they need and deserve.

Name: Ryan Mackenzie

Website: RyanForPA.com

Current Job: State Representative (2012-Present)

Social Media: MackenzieforPA

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You are running for election in which district? HD 187

Q: What are your views on the benefits, or drawbacks, of allocating additional state funds for high-quality pre-k education?

A: I have always been a supporter of high-quality pre-k and have voted for increased funding. More needs to be done though as was pointed out. This is one of the most important times of development for children.

Q: How important, or unimportant, are increased public resources to expand access and affordability to high-quality child care to working families in your district?

A: This is very important for sustaining families and helping people get back to work. Both affordability and access are issues that need more state attention.

Q: Should the wages for child care workers and preschool teachers be commensurate with those of other educators with similar qualifications and experience?

A: Yes

Q: Will you support the expansion of state investment dollars to serve those in your district who can benefit from home visiting?

A: Yes

Q: In addition to making child care more accessible and affordable, what other policies would you champion to help businesses facing a workforce shortage?

A: I have proposed legislation that would use tax credits for workforce development programs (and make it similar to the current PA EITC program, which is very successful). We also need more training and programs at all levels of skills to help fill gaps in our existing education and training programs.

Q: What other government resources or policies would you consider for families that are struggling with keeping costs, especially child care, under control?

A: More state subsidies, less unnecessary regulations, and expanded tax credits for child care could all help.



Q: Which mental health supports are needed most in your district and how will you work to increase access to families that need them?

A: More mental health supports are needed. They were needed pre-covid and the need has only grown. I will continue to advocate for more state resources for mental health. We also need to continue to let it be known that it is ok to ask for help.

Q: Would you support the creation of a refundable State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)? Why/why not?

A: Yes - this has been successful in other states. I support this because it helps working families, especially those that are low-income.

Q: What would you do, if elected, to expand the access to affordable broadband internet?

A: Expanded broadband access is important across the state, but especially in rural areas. I voted for expanding this and will continue to support expansion and access to help families and businesses gain access so that they can compete and thrive in today's economy.