

## 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:** Mike Sturla

**Website:** [www.votemikesturla.com](http://www.votemikesturla.com)

**Current Job:** State Representative

**Social Media:** VoteSturla

**Campaign Contact Person:** Jesse White

**Campaign Contact Cell Phone:** 724-859-0665

**Campaign Contact Email Address:** [info@votemikesturla.com](mailto:info@votemikesturla.com)

**You are running for election in which district?** HD96

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

A: High quality pre-k needs to be part of the educational solution if we want our kids to start off with the skills and they need to compete.

**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: My district includes a substantial number of working families who rely on affordable, quality childcare on a daily basis. We need increased resources to ensure those services are available.

**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 support the use of a multi-faceted approach that utilizes state resources and community-based providers to ensure that small businesses are being properly supported.

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

A: There are a variety of approaches, but increasing wages will help families afford services, which is why I support increasing the minimum wage.

**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: Like most communities, my district has a variety of mental health service needs, and I have worked hard with providers to bridge the gap associated with connecting services with those in need. We can always do better and I am always looking for ways to keep those channels of communication open, especially during times of crisis.

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

A: Yes. The EITC is sound policy that will benefit those in need.

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

A: I have consistently advocated for expanded internet access across the commonwealth, especially during my tenure as Democratic Policy Committee Chair, and will continue to do so if re-elected.