

Evers Urges Legislature to Invest in Child Care and Workforce Challenges

Written by GOV Press Wisconsin

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<http://newiproggressive.com/images/stories/S5/childcare-s451.jpg>



Governor continues push for child care funding ahead of special session of the Wisconsin State Legislature on September 20th.

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers, just a month out from [his special session call of the Wisconsin State Legislature](#), is continuing to urge the Legislature to address the looming child care industry fiscal cliff and pass a comprehensive plan to address the state's chronic workforce challenges. Gov. Evers is continuing a statewide tour visiting child care providers across the state, including recent visits in Milwaukee, Appleton, Rhinelander, Eau Claire, Lancaster, Holmen, and Kewaskum, to discuss the importance of the child care industry and the impact its collapse would have on the state's workforce. According to a [report](#) from The Century Foundation, it is estimated that without the necessary investments to stave off the looming fiscal cliff facing the state's child care industry, 2,110 child care programs are projected to close, resulting in the loss of over 4,880 child care jobs, leaving more than 87,000 kids in Wisconsin without child care, and potentially causing approximately half a billion dollars in economic impacts between parents leaving the workforce and reduced employer productivity.

On Aug. 8, 2023, Gov. Evers announced he has called a special session of the Legislature to occur at 12:00 p.m. on Sept. 20, 2023, and presented his comprehensive workforce plan to use more than \$1 billion of the state's readily available \$4 billion budget surplus to prevent a looming collapse of the state's child care industry and ensure child care is affordable and accessible for working parents and families, expand paid family leave, invest in higher education to help educate, train, retain, and recruit talented workers, and support targeted solutions to workforce challenges in high-need areas, specifically the state's healthcare and education workforce sectors. More information about the governor's special session plan is available [here](#).

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