



City of Detroit
Detroit City Council
Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway
District 2

May 21, 2024

STATEMENT

SUPPORTING GOVERNOR WHITMER'S "PRE-K FOR ALL" PLAN

During her State of the State address on January 24, 2024, Governor Gretchen Whitmer revealed her expedited schedule to introduce free pre-K education for all 4-year-olds in Michigan.

Following her lead, I urged the Legislative Policy Division to draft a resolution endorsing the Governor's "Pre-K for All" Initiative. This initiative aims to offer free, high-quality pre-K education to every 4-year-old in Michigan by the year's end, regardless of their location, race/ethnicity, or family income. Research indicates that children enrolled in these programs often perform better on state assessments in the third grade, have fewer academic setbacks, and improved attendance records.

Additionally, in August 2023, I requested that LPD and the Law Department explore adjusting usage and development regulations to encourage the expansion of childcare facilities in Detroit. The objective was to improve childcare availability, tackle educational discrepancies, and nurture our children's well-being.

Governor Whitmer's plan aligns with my original intentions. The resolution I am currently requesting broadens the scope by backing the state's effort to remove obstacles for families seeking educational opportunities for their 4-year-olds. This investment is for our children. "Pre-K for All" opens avenues for our children and enhances their academic, social, and emotional growth.

The program delivers lasting advantages by fostering more educated and productive workforces, leading to enhanced personal growth in adulthood for each participant.

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