



Legislative Building  
Olympia, WA 98501-0482

# Washington State Senate

Phone: (360) 786-7550  
FAX: (360) 786-1999

March 15, 2011

Senator Lisa Brown  
Senator Mike Hewitt  
Senator Ed Murray  
Senator Joseph Zarelli  
Senator Derek Kilmer  
Senator Linda Evans Parlette

**Re: \$1.87 million budget request for the Home Visiting Services Account**

Dear Colleagues,

We are writing to express our support for putting \$1.87 million into the Home Visiting Services Account for the 2011-13 biennium. This amount is required for us to receive \$1.3 million per year (\$2.6M for the biennium) in new federal funding. Anything less than this amount will result in a loss of all federal home visiting funds.

Our state's current biennial investment of \$2.3 million provides voluntary, intensive education and coaching to over 800 vulnerable parents and children each year. At an average annual cost to the state of \$1,500 per family, these programs provide an excellent return on investment by preventing child abuse and neglect, improving health and educational outcomes, and reducing later involvement in crime and public assistance. For example, the Washington State Institute for Public Policy identified one home visiting program – the Nurse Family Partnership – as the best investment we can make in crime prevention. This is why over 120 police chiefs, sheriffs and prosecutors in our districts have written us a letter urging us to maintain state funding for these programs.

In these tough economic times we must continue to invest in evidence-based programs that have proven to save us money in the short- and long-term. The private sector remains committed to partnering with the state to fund home visiting programs, meaning we will leverage both federal and private funding with our investment.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and support for these important programs that give our most vulnerable children a good start.

Sincerely,

Senator Rosemary McAuliffe, 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative District

Senator Steve Litzow, 41<sup>st</sup> Legislative District

Senator Joe Fain, 47<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Senator Karen Fraser, 22<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District

Senator Scott White, 46<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Senator Phil Rockefeller, 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District

Senator Andy Hill, 45<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Senator Debbie Regala, 27<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Senator Nick Harper, 38<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Senator Steve Hobbs, 44<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

State of  
Washington  
House of  
Representatives



March 11, 2011

Speaker Frank Chopp  
Representative Pat Sullivan  
Representative Ross Hunter  
Representative Jeannie Darnelle  
Representative Bob Hasegawa

**Re: \$1.87 million budget request for the Home Visiting Services Account**

Dear Colleagues,

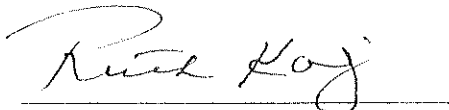
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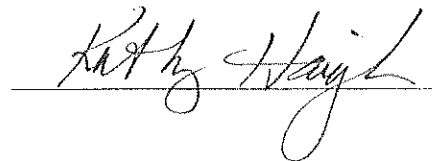
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Ina Dwell

May 14 Roberts

Dir G. Trout

Sam Hunt

Zimm Amby 3

Eve Pettigrew

PA Dwell

Spitzer

Shemp Appleton 23

Ryan E. Goodman

Marcie Maxwell

Chris Reynolds

Christine Orr

Long St 20

JOM 27

Dean Takko 19

Ken M. Carby 36

Conrad Goluberg 29