

**Testimony in Support of Full Funding of Universal Child Care Programs
in New York State**

**For the hearing of the
Joint Budget and Legislative Committees**

**Submitted to the
Human Services Committee**

February 03, 2026

Dear Chairwoman Senator Liz Krueger, Chairwoman Assemblymember Helene E. Weinstein, and Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is Alyssa Gomes, and I am a parent residing in Brooklyn, NY. I am writing to strongly urge your full support and funding to deliver Universal Child Care to New York State.

Child care costs have impacted my family greatly. I have one child who will be 2 at the end of June 2026. I am also pregnant with our second child and due in June 2026. My first reaction was so happy to be pregnant, my second reaction was, how am I going to afford childcare for two kids. This should not be a question for anyone especially to be the second thought once I found out I was pregnant.

My husband and I are both city workers, I am a high school special education teacher and he is a librarian. We both have masters degrees and we will be living paycheck to paycheck having to pay for daycare for 2 children.

I would also love to have more children but there is no way I can afford it with the cost of childcare.

I urge the full funding of a statewide 3K and Pre-K Guarantee, and 2- Care in New York City to tackle the issue of Child Care Affordability.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Gomes

Brooklyn, NY

Submitted via New Yorkers United for Child Care (united4childcare.org)