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## FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE MELISSA CONYEARS-ERVIN

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## Conyears-Ervin Working to Help Families With Childcare Costs

**SPRINGFIELD, Ill.** – State Rep. Melissa Conyears-Ervin, D-Chicago, is fighting to help low-income families afford childcare through new legislation that increases access to the Child Care Assistance Program, or CCAP.

“When Governor Rauner took office, he attacked low-income families by drastically cutting eligibility for the Child Care Assistance Program, a move that forced many children out of their daycare programs,” Conyears-Ervin said. “As a new mother, I empathize with families who were forced to suddenly face the decision between providing quality care for their child while they work, or quitting their job to take care of them on their own – it is unacceptable.”

Conyears-Ervin has introduced House Bill 721 which returns low-income, working families’ eligibility for the CCAP to the same level as before Governor Rauner cut it. This increase would allow a single mother with a child working full time who makes about \$14 an hour to be eligible for assistance, as opposed to current eligibility of a parent making at most \$12 an hour. By making this increase in eligibility, Conyears-Ervin could return access to CCAP for up to 30,000 children.

“The CCAP program has allowed many working families and single parents to have affordable childcare while they are working to help make ends meet, or attending school,” Conyears-Ervin said. “We shouldn’t punish people when they are trying to get an education or help provide for their families. As state representative and a new mother, I will continue to fight to ensure that our hardworking families and children have access to quality and affordable childcare.”

State Rep. Melissa Conyears-Ervin is the new state representative for Illinois’ 10th district. Her office can be reached at [Rep@ConyearsErvin.com](mailto:Rep@ConyearsErvin.com).

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