



October 31, 2019

The Honorable Michael Bennet
US Senate
261 Russell Senate Office Bldg
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Bennet:

On behalf of the Colorado Counties, Inc. Health and Human Services Steering Committee, we wish to express our strong support for the Family First Transition and Support Act and request that you cosponsor this important piece of impending legislation.

Since March 2018, Colorado has been fully engaged in a large stakeholder planning process for implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA includes significant changes to federal child welfare law, including financial incentives to help keep children safely with their families and, when necessary, place children in the least restrictive setting possible. While Colorado has been proactive in laying the groundwork for initial FFPSA implementation, the provisions in the Family First Transition and Support Act would provide critical funding and flexibility to ensure a smooth and successful rollout in our state.

While the introduction of FFPSA brings exciting opportunities, it also signals the end of the Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration Project. As Colorado reverts to earning IV-E funding in a standard (non-waiver) manner, overall IV-E reimbursements to Colorado will likely be reduced. Over the past five years, IV-E Waiver funding has been crucial to building the state's early intervention and prevention system. The extended waiver funding proposed in the Family First Transition and Support Act would therefore provide critical "gap" funding to the child welfare system as the state implements FFPSA.

In addition to building and expanding prevention services, Colorado must also dedicate resources to training development, ongoing technical assistance, communications support, technology enhancements, policy changes, and fiscal analysis to ensure a seamless transition. Additional federal funding dedicated to supporting Colorado's transition to FFPSA would greatly strengthen the state's readiness to execute all areas of the sweeping new law.

For these reasons, we urge you to support the Family First Transition and Support Act. Please free to contact CCI if you have any questions or if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Wendy Buxton Andrade, Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Prowers County Commissioner

Casey Tighe, Vice Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Jefferson County Commissioner



October 31, 2019

The Honorable Ken Buck
US House of Representatives
1130 Cannon HOB
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative Buck:

On behalf of the Colorado Counties, Inc. Health and Human Services Steering Committee, we wish to express our strong support for the Family First Transition and Support Act and request that you cosponsor this important piece of impending legislation.

Since March 2018, Colorado has been fully engaged in a large stakeholder planning process for implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA includes significant changes to federal child welfare law, including financial incentives to help keep children safely with their families and, when necessary, place children in the least restrictive setting possible. While Colorado has been proactive in laying the groundwork for initial FFPSA implementation, the provisions in the Family First Transition and Support Act would provide critical funding and flexibility to ensure a smooth and successful rollout in our state.

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Wendy Buxton Andrade, Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Prowers County Commissioner

Casey Tighe, Vice Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Jefferson County Commissioner



October 31, 2019

The Honorable Jason Crow
US House of Representatives
1229 Longworth HOB
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative Crow:

On behalf of the Colorado Counties, Inc. Health and Human Services Steering Committee, we wish to express our strong support for the Family First Transition and Support Act and request that you cosponsor this important piece of impending legislation.

Since March 2018, Colorado has been fully engaged in a large stakeholder planning process for implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA includes significant changes to federal child welfare law, including financial incentives to help keep children safely with their families and, when necessary, place children in the least restrictive setting possible. While Colorado has been proactive in laying the groundwork for initial FFPSA implementation, the provisions in the Family First Transition and Support Act would provide critical funding and flexibility to ensure a smooth and successful rollout in our state.

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Wendy Buxton Andrade, Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Prowers County Commissioner

Casey Tighe, Vice Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Jefferson County Commissioner



October 31, 2019

The Honorable Diana DeGette
US House of Representatives
2111 Rayburn HOB
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative DeGette:

On behalf of the Colorado Counties, Inc. Health and Human Services Steering Committee, we wish to express our strong support for the Family First Transition and Support Act and request that you cosponsor this important piece of impending legislation.

Since March 2018, Colorado has been fully engaged in a large stakeholder planning process for implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA includes significant changes to federal child welfare law, including financial incentives to help keep children safely with their families and, when necessary, place children in the least restrictive setting possible. While Colorado has been proactive in laying the groundwork for initial FFPSA implementation, the provisions in the Family First Transition and Support Act would provide critical funding and flexibility to ensure a smooth and successful rollout in our state.

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Wendy Buxton Andrade, Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Prowers County Commissioner

Casey Tighe, Vice Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Jefferson County Commissioner



October 31, 2019

The Honorable Cory Gardner
US Senate
354 Russell Senate Office Bldg
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Gardner:

On behalf of the Colorado Counties, Inc. Health and Human Services Steering Committee, we wish to express our strong support for the Family First Transition and Support Act and request that you cosponsor this important piece of impending legislation.

Since March 2018, Colorado has been fully engaged in a large stakeholder planning process for implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA includes significant changes to federal child welfare law, including financial incentives to help keep children safely with their families and, when necessary, place children in the least restrictive setting possible. While Colorado has been proactive in laying the groundwork for initial FFPSA implementation, the provisions in the Family First Transition and Support Act would provide critical funding and flexibility to ensure a smooth and successful rollout in our state.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Wendy Buxton Andrade'.

Wendy Buxton Andrade, Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Prowers County Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Casey Tighe'.

Casey Tighe, Vice Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Jefferson County Commissioner



October 31, 2019

The Honorable Doug Lamborn
US House of Representatives
2402 Rayburn HOB
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative Lamborn:

On behalf of the Colorado Counties, Inc. Health and Human Services Steering Committee, we wish to express our strong support for the Family First Transition and Support Act and request that you cosponsor this important piece of impending legislation.

Since March 2018, Colorado has been fully engaged in a large stakeholder planning process for implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA includes significant changes to federal child welfare law, including financial incentives to help keep children safely with their families and, when necessary, place children in the least restrictive setting possible. While Colorado has been proactive in laying the groundwork for initial FFPSA implementation, the provisions in the Family First Transition and Support Act would provide critical funding and flexibility to ensure a smooth and successful rollout in our state.

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Wendy Buxton Andrade, Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Prowers County Commissioner

Casey Tighe, Vice Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Jefferson County Commissioner



October 31, 2019

The Honorable Joe Neguse
US House of Representatives
1419 Longworth HOB
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative Neguse:

On behalf of the Colorado Counties, Inc. Health and Human Services Steering Committee, we wish to express our strong support for the Family First Transition and Support Act and request that you cosponsor this important piece of impending legislation.

Since March 2018, Colorado has been fully engaged in a large stakeholder planning process for implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA includes significant changes to federal child welfare law, including financial incentives to help keep children safely with their families and, when necessary, place children in the least restrictive setting possible. While Colorado has been proactive in laying the groundwork for initial FFPSA implementation, the provisions in the Family First Transition and Support Act would provide critical funding and flexibility to ensure a smooth and successful rollout in our state.

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Wendy Buxton Andrade, Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Prowers County Commissioner

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Casey Tighe, Vice Chair
CCI Health & Human Services Steering Committee
Jefferson County Commissioner



October 31, 2019

The Honorable Ed Perlmutter
US House of Representatives
1410 Longworth HOB
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative Perlmutter:

On behalf of the Colorado Counties, Inc. Health and Human Services Steering Committee, we wish to express our strong support for the Family First Transition and Support Act and request that you cosponsor this important piece of impending legislation.

Since March 2018, Colorado has been fully engaged in a large stakeholder planning process for implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA includes significant changes to federal child welfare law, including financial incentives to help keep children safely with their families and, when necessary, place children in the least restrictive setting possible. While Colorado has been proactive in laying the groundwork for initial FFPSA implementation, the provisions in the Family First Transition and Support Act would provide critical funding and flexibility to ensure a smooth and successful rollout in our state.

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Wendy Buxton Andrade, Chair
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Casey Tighe, Vice Chair
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October 31, 2019

The Honorable Scott Tipton
US House of Representatives
218 Cannon HOB
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative Tipton:

On behalf of the Colorado Counties, Inc. Health and Human Services Steering Committee, we wish to express our strong support for the Family First Transition and Support Act and request that you cosponsor this important piece of impending legislation.

Since March 2018, Colorado has been fully engaged in a large stakeholder planning process for implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). FFPSA includes significant changes to federal child welfare law, including financial incentives to help keep children safely with their families and, when necessary, place children in the least restrictive setting possible. While Colorado has been proactive in laying the groundwork for initial FFPSA implementation, the provisions in the Family First Transition and Support Act would provide critical funding and flexibility to ensure a smooth and successful rollout in our state.

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