

What the Governors Said

Here's a listing of Governors who addressed early childhood education in their State of the State speeches and what they said or proposed.

Alabama Gov. Bob Riley – Proposed a \$20 million increase to triple the number of children attending state pre-K.

Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano – Said state must move to implement voter-approved initiative aimed at early childhood education and care, including a focus on preschool and quality child care.

Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter – Proposed eliminating current wait-list for Colorado Preschool Program and extending full-day kindergarten to 22,000 more children statewide.

Delaware Gov. Ruth Ann Minner – Recommended additional \$500,000 for early childhood education. Proposed dedicating money from a public schools cost-saving initiative to early childhood education. Proposed state fund full-day kindergarten in 11 more districts and nine charter schools.

Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue – Proposed adding \$6.4 million in lottery funds to bring the total number of state pre-K slots up to 79,000.

Idaho Gov. C.L. “Butch” Otter – Proposed expanding “Read to Me” program to reach and additional 5,000 children and 30 more libraries.

Iowa Gov. Chet Culver – Proposed expanding state-funded early childhood education so Iowa can meet its goal of offering it statewide by 2010.

Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius – Proposed a new Early Childhood Block Grant, driven by research-based programming and accountability measures, focused on at-risk children and under-served areas.

Maine Gov. John Baldacci -- Vowed to transform the Children’s Cabinet Task Force on Early Childhood into a Children’s Growth Council, a move recommended by Maine business and community leaders attending the Governor’s Economic Summit in November.

Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick – Proposed increases in early education grants, all-day kindergarten and extended learning time.

Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm – Proposed a significant expansion (\$32 million) in early childhood education.

Mississippi Gov. Hayley Barbour – Said the state needs to better utilize existing early childhood programs that already serve 80 percent of 4-year-olds...by providing financial incentives for them to expand and improve their educational content.

Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt -- Said his budget includes significant increases for state-funded pre-K.

New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson – Proposed creating state pre-K slots for an additional 2,000 children.

Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell – Proposed new school funding accountability measures that require new money be spent only on programs proven to increase achievement such as pre-K.

Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen – Proposed spending \$25 million to provide state pre-K to an additional 250 classrooms.

Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine – Proposed expanding state pre-K from 13,000 children attending to about 20,000 children attending.