Nevada State Legislators,

My name is Christine, and I am from Las Vegas, NV. I have 4 kids, ages 4, 7, 12, and 14. With the gap in ages, I have seen some movement in early childhood education, such as kindergarten moving from 1/2 day to full day, however, there is still so much work to be done. While it won’t effect my family, as my youngest is scheduled to start kindergarten in the fall, my hope is that other families will not have to endure the struggles we did.

Early childhood education and daycare costs are unreasonable for the working middle class family. We make too much for assistance, yet we continue to struggle to keep up with the rising costs. Thankfully we only have one in childcare now, but it still comes with a hefty price tag, of $220/week. There have been many times we have had no choice but to pay tuition with a credit card, and sadly have become deep in debt over the years. My husband and I have good jobs, but it still isn’t enough. There have been times over the years where we have had two in care at the same time, and the price tag was astronomical.

I am asking you today to please consider making early childhood education and childcare more affordable for all. No parent should have to choose between quality childcare for their children, and putting themselves thousands of dollars in credit card debt, as we have.

Simply put, our children are the future, and we must make them a priority.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to me.

Strong Start Parent Ambassador