

For Immediate Release

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**The Women Effect Action Fund Applauds House Passage of the Build Back Better Act
with Historic Investment In Families**

“Bipartisan majorities of voters support Build Back Better’s care investments because they know these policies are crucial to rebuilding from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Washington, DC — November 19, 2021

Lisa Guide, co-founder of the Women Effect Action Fund (WEAF), released the following statement in response to passage of the Build Back Better Act by the U.S. House of Representatives:

“Today, thanks to the dedicated leadership of President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris and Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the House made history by passing transformative investments in our caregiving infrastructure, including child care, home-and-community-based services and paid family and medical leave. These care investments will benefit women and families, small businesses and the economy overall, and help create a more equitable country.

Bipartisan majorities of voters support Build Back Better’s care investments because they know these policies are crucial to rebuilding from the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, the Women Effect Action Fund supported voter contact programs in 11 states. We heard over and over from voters that families, especially women, had been shouldering the burden of care crises made even worse by the pandemic. Now these families are one step closer to receiving the support they need to thrive.

Investing in our care infrastructure, just like we invested in roads and bridges, will directly support women and families. Investments in care will help bring a new era of prosperity with a family-friendly economy that works for all Americans. Now it’s time for the Senate to pass the Build Back Better Act -- families can’t wait any longer.”

The Build Back Better Act would provide four weeks of paid family and medical leave, \$150 billion to expand home and community-based services on behalf of older Americans and people with disabilities, \$400 billion for child care and preschool and \$200 billion for an extension of the Child Tax Credit. Numerous analyses have shown that these care policies will create jobs, generate economic activity and help Americans, particularly women, recover from the pandemic. Of note:

- Investing in universal preschool would help grow our economy for generations to come: research shows that every dollar invested in high-quality early childhood programs for low-income children yields more than [\\$7 in benefits](#).

- Seventeen recipients of the Nobel Prize in economics [signed a letter](#) in support of Build Back Better and said, “Because this agenda invests in long-term economic capacity and will enhance the ability of more Americans to participate productively in the economy, it will ease longer-term inflationary pressures.”

New polling from [Global Strategy Group & Paid Leave for All Action](#) reinforced previous polling that shows bipartisan majorities of voters support comprehensive paid family and medical leave and that battleground voters who will decide 2022 prioritize passing paid leave now:

- 80% of voters in 2022 Senate battleground states support paid leave for workers with a serious illness.
 - Paid leave is the only policy supported by a majority of voters across party lines aside from allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices
- More than two-thirds of voters overall want paid leave passed urgently, including:
 - 73% of suburban women
 - 71% of Independent women
 - 76% of non-college women
- When a generic Democrat candidate supports paid leave and a generic Republican candidate opposes, Democrats win battleground undecided voters by 17 points.

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The Women Effect Action Fund (WEAF) advocates at the ballot box for women’s economic equity, highlighting the importance of family-friendly economic policies to the electorate, building support for smart policies for women and families, and holding elected officials accountable to passing the policies that their constituents support.