

Dear Representative/Senator xx:

I am writing in support of Georgia's universal pre-k program. I have lived in your district for xx years and always vote at (*enter location*). I am extremely concerned about the future of early education funding in Georgia and the many severe implications of cutting funding for Georgia's universal pre-k program. With nearly 5,000 students on the waiting list and being denied the promise of universal pre-k, and a shortened school year for those students enrolled in the program, we must increase funding – even in these tough economic times.

Evidence strongly suggests that reading at grade level by 3rd grade is a powerful predictor of children's later success in school and in life. Georgia's children are falling below, or barely meeting, basic standards in reading by the end of third grade. Pre-k is a proven tool for increasing the likelihood that a child reads at grade level by the end of 3rd grade.

Pre-k increases high school graduation rates, helps children perform better on standardized tests, and reduces grade repetition. But, quality pre-k programs don't just ensure academic success, they also create responsible adults. Pre-k is proven to reduce crime and delinquency, lower rates of teen pregnancy, and leads to greater employment and higher wages as adults.

This session, I encourage you to support our children, communities and families across the state by supporting pre-k.

Sincerely,

Name

Address

E-mail

Phone