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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

**DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN,
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LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND FINANCE

September 21, 2011

The Honorable Tom Corbett
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Corbett:

I respectfully ask that your administration reconsider its decision to increase co-payments for families who receive the Child Care Works subsidy.

The Department of Public Welfare will increase the co-payment for families receiving the Child Care Works subsidy on October 3, 2011. I am very concerned about the potential impact of this increase on low-income working families.

While the imminent increase may seem modest to some, the amount is actually very great when compared to the available income of the families who need the assistance. And when child care becomes unaffordable for these families, often one of two things happens: mothers quit their jobs or drop out of school to go on welfare, or parents are forced to place their children in unsafe situations so that they may continue to go to work. I remember all too well when these very events took place years ago when Governor Ridge made cuts to the subsidized child care program.

Increasing the co-payment for subsidized child care will likely have serious consequences for families once again and is not in the best interests of these parents, their children or the Commonwealth. It is for this reason that I ask your administration to reconsider increasing co-payments for families who receive the Child Care Works subsidy.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phyllis Mundy".

Phyllis Mundy
State Representative
120th Legislative District