

**Testimony in Support of Full Funding of Universal Child Care Programs  
in New York State**

**For the hearing of the  
Joint Budget and Legislative Committees**

**Submitted to the  
Human Services Committee**

**February 03, 2026**

Dear Chairwoman Senator Liz Krueger, Chairwoman Assemblymember Helene E. Weinstein, and Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is Jason Dumelie and I am a parent residing in New York, NY. I am writing to strongly urge your full support and funding to deliver Universal Child Care to New York State.

As a scientist, I have been told by female colleagues that they were advised to choose between starting a family and staying in medical research. I did a survey of mid level scientists in NYC (n>1000) and found that not only did it appear that women were dropping out of the field after having kids, but they also reported lower levels of job satisfaction compared with women that did not have children and men. I have personally had friends that were colleagues leave the city because childcare was unaffordable. This is damaging our profession and everything it touches: new medical discoveries, patient care and NYC's economy.

I urge the full funding of a statewide 3K and Pre-K Guarantee, and 2- Care in New York City to tackle the issue of Child Care Affordability.

Sincerely,

Jason Dumelie  
Brooklyn, NY

Submitted via New Yorkers United for Child Care ([united4childcare.org](http://united4childcare.org))