



ARIZONA CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

Argument "Against" Proposition 302

Proposition 302 would eliminate the voter approved and tobacco tax funded First Things First program and transfer all current and future funds to the general fund virtually overnight. If approved, all the First Things First services to children and their families will terminate on December 1st.

The language of the ballot initiative that states "these monies ...shall be appropriated for health and human services for children" is deceptive. This initiative contains absolutely no assurance that current general fund spending for children will be maintained. In fact, the legislature has already made cuts and built in the First Things First funds in as backfill for state agency reductions, thus assuring a net loss of children's services. If First Things First funds are transferred, nothing prevents even more cuts to services for children next year.

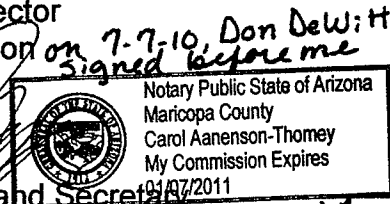
Dr. James Heckman, Distinguished Professor and Nobel Prize winner in Economics, has proven that there are great economic gains to be had by investing in early childhood development. He found that prevention through early childhood development is more cost-effective than remediation and that economic returns come from investments in early childhood development. Providing resources for children pays dividends for society as a whole by providing better future outcomes in economic productivity. As private businesses and non-profits that provide early care and learning services to young children throughout Arizona, we observe daily the value of investments in children's early years.

The Arizona Child Care Association urges all Arizonans who do not want further cuts to children's' services and want to continue investments to vote NO on Proposition 302. Let's keep a dedicated funding stream for children, early education, and our future.

Bruce Liggett, Executive Director
Arizona Child Care Association



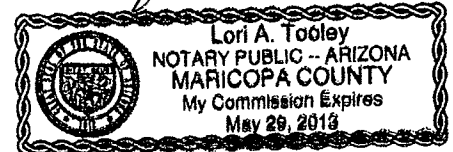
Diane L. Post



Don DeWitt, Past President and Secretary
Arizona Child Care Association

Carol Aanenson-Thomey

on July 7, Robert Orsi signed before me



Robert Orsi, Treasurer
Arizona Child Care Association

Lori A. Tooley