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House Passage of Megabill Signifies 'Dark Days for America's Children and Families,' Says All Our Kin

(New Haven, CT) – Today, House Republicans voted for passage of the megabill that stands to have a long-lasting and devastating impact on millions of Americans, including families without healthcare and food assistance. Jessica Sager, CEO of national nonprofit organization <u>All Our Kin</u>, released the following statement in response:

"Today, a majority of the House sent a clear message that the best interests of a privileged few outweigh those of the vast majority of Americans. The passage of this bill, by its very design, will benefit those who need it least, while leaving millions without health care or food assistance. When the party that purports to stand for family values shows blatant disregard for the most vulnerable, it signifies dark days for America's families.

"Top GOP leaders said the American people gave a clear mandate for change. That mandate did not include making impossible choices, like whether to feed their families or get medical care, or leave their jobs when the cost of childcare eats up the majority of their salaries. This legislation will hurt our children and destabilize local economies.

"The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that <u>17 million</u> Americans would lose health care due to this bill, including <u>11.8 million</u> with Medicaid. The bill also includes the <u>largest cut</u> to SNAP benefits in history. The consequences will be devastating for early childhood educators, who are already subsisting on razor-thin margins, and often <u>need one or more public safety nets</u>, such as Medicaid or SNAP, to make ends meet.

"And to what end? The nonpartisan Tax Policy Center projected the bill would result in a mere \$150 tax break for the lowest quintile of Americans, while the top quintile benefits from a \$10,950 tax cut, once again demonstrating that it's only the privileged few who matter to some leaders. Rather than rushing the vote on this deeply flawed legislation, our lawmakers should have dwelled on the far-reaching implications of its provisions."

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All Our Kin is a national nonprofit organization that trains, supports and sustains family child care educators. Through All Our Kin's programming, educators build sustainable child care businesses, parents have access to stable, high-quality childcare, and children gain the educational foundation that lays the groundwork for success in school and life.