



2022 North Carolina Congressional Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Wiley Nickel

District: NC House District 13

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Current Occupation: NC State Senator; Attorney

1. What are your views on the needs of young children (prenatal to age 5) and what specific steps would you take to address these needs?

I strongly believe that our children deserve a sound, high quality public education, and that the support we give our children should begin from a very young age. I believe that support begins with supporting working families who are trying to care for their kids and make ends meet. I applaud the House-passed legislation to boost domestic supply of baby formula amidst the recent shortage, and as a State Senator, pushed legislation to enact a Child Tax credit for our state to give parents a break. I believe in protecting programs that help children from low-income families get access to healthcare, like CHIP, and protect against childhood hunger, like school lunch programs and SNAP.

2. What steps would you take to ensure that children birth to age five have access to high-quality and affordable early learning programs?

We've waited far too long to make needed investments in our public education system including expanding access to pre-K. I've fought for universal pre-K in the State Senate, and in Congress, look forward to doing everything I can to make childcare more affordable and invest in pre-K programs for our state.

3. What steps would you take to stabilize and sustain North Carolina's early education system and child care workforce as we approach the end of the federal child care relief funding?

Beyond my strong support for expanding access to affordable childcare and pre-K programs, I have pushed for increasing teacher pay and investing in childhood mental health and support services. We can also partner with private industry to help support childcare facilities near a parent's workplace, and we have to make permanent the Child Tax credit.