Legislator Newsletter - April 2018

The Foundation of our Future: NH’s Young Children
Abigail J. Blodgett, co-author

Abigail J. Blodgett, an Early Childhood Studies major at PSU and a children’s advocate, has been an intern with Early Learning New Hampshire (ELNH), a non-profit organization, and Spark NH, the Governor-appointed Early Childhood Advisory Council, key advocacy groups for NH’s children and families. The experiences of young children from birth through age three are the key factors in permanent brain structure formation. Blodgett urges that we guard all of New Hampshire’s young children from adverse experiences, meet their needs, and provide them with ample opportunities to grow and develop to their optimum potential. ELNH and Spark NH are building partnerships with community members, businesses, and other organizations that work for the best interests of our children. Their work and our support of it, is an investment in the future health and prosperity of our state.

Untapped Potential: Foreign-owned businesses employ 44,000 Granite Staters

Foreign direct investment from 24 countries contributes significantly to New Hampshire’s economy. While many know British BAE Systems and German Freudenberg are in New Hampshire, most do not know that 70% of foreign subsidiaries in the state are much smaller, with fewer than 20 employees. The year-long study by Plymouth State University Professors Roxana Wright and Chen Wu, titled “New Hampshire Foreign Direct Investment Report,” reveals that there is extraordinary potential for future growth. As the Union Leader notes, “The findings of the study... highlight the need for a strategic plan to focus the state’s efforts in attracting and promoting FDI [foreign direct investment] and to provide guidance to foreign investors on location choice.”

Announcement: Paige Colotto, a student leader at PSU, has been named a Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow for 2018. This national honor is awarded to undergraduates who have demonstrated a commitment to finding solutions for challenges facing their communities. The Fellowship program prepares the Fellows for future roles in tackling pressing issues at the local and state levels and beyond.