



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	79825	Version:	1	Name:	Supporting initiatives that improve access to high-quality, affordable child care for all families in Madison
Type:	Resolution	Status:	Passed		
File created:	9/12/2023	In control:	Council Office		
On agenda:	9/19/2023	Final action:	9/19/2023		
Enactment date:	9/25/2023	Enactment #:	RES-23-00570		
Title:	Supporting initiatives that improve access to high-quality, affordable child care for all families in Madison				
Sponsors:	Regina M. Vidaver, Dina Nina Martinez-Rutherford, John W. Duncan, Tag Evers, Derek Field, MGR Govindarajan, Barbara Harrington-McKinney, Sabrina V. Madison, Charles Myadze, Marsha A. Rummel, Michael E. Verveer, Nasra Wehelie, Yannette Figueroa Cole, Kristen Slack, Juliana R. Bennett				

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
9/19/2023	1	COMMON COUNCIL	Adopt Unanimously	Pass
9/12/2023	1	Council Office	RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT	

Fiscal Note

The proposed resolution expresses support for initiatives that improve access to high-quality, affordable child care for all families in Madison and directs that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Tony Evers and the Madison legislative delegation. No appropriation is required.

Title

Supporting initiatives that improve access to high-quality, affordable child care for all families in Madison

Body

WHEREAS, families in Madison rely on child care providers as an essential service for early learning, development, and social supports for children; and,

WHEREAS, the availability of high-quality child care options provides critical infrastructure that enables employment for working families; and,

WHEREAS, access to affordable child care is necessary for employers to build and retain a robust workforce and is an important component of supporting entrepreneurship, building capacity, and improving education in working-age adults; and,

WHEREAS, a May 2023 report from the Wisconsin Policy Forum highlights that the annual cost of child care in a licensed group center is more expensive than in-state tuition at any University of Wisconsin campus, and equates to up to 29% of the median household income for infant care, and 22% of median household income for care for a four-year-old; and,

WHEREAS, additionally, a study of 2021 child care rates by the non-profit Community Coordinated Child Care,

Inc. showed that the median cost of child care for a two-year-old in Madison was \$260 per week; for a family with a gross income of \$90,000, this represents over 15% of their family income before taxes; and,

WHEREAS, an August 2023 survey from the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association found that 86% of program directors and owners already are or are considering raising parent fees, 47% of early educators are considering leaving the field, and 32% of programs are considering closing without further investment in the Child Care Counts program; and,

WHEREAS, the state Child Care Counts program received a significant federal infusion of funding that will expire in January 2024 without further action by the legislature; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Tony Evers called for a special session of the Legislature at the Capitol on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, to consider and act upon LRB-4085/LRB-4086, relating to a fall workforce package which includes investments in Child Care Counts; and,

WHEREAS, without investments to address the child care industry's looming fiscal cliff, The Century Foundation estimates that statewide, 2,110 child care programs could close, resulting in a loss of 4,882 child care jobs, leaving 87,425 kids without child care, and resulting in approximately half a billion dollars in economic impacts between parents leaving the workforce and reduced employer productivity; and,

WHEREAS, many child care providers, families, employers, community-based organizations, and local public agencies in Madison are already collaborating to innovate, identify creative solutions, and address a broken child care system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Madison supports initiatives that improve access to high-quality, affordable child care for all families in Madison.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Tony Evers and the Madison legislative delegation.