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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: November 21, 2024

RE: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LICENSING
RULES FOR CHILDCARE CENTERS**

Council Angela Whitfield-Calloway requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a resolution in support of the recently proposed changes to the licensing rules for Michigan childcare centers.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LICENSING RULES
FOR CHILDCARE CENTERS**

- WHEREAS,** The Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP), under the Bureau of Office of Early Childhood Education, has proposed changes to the licensing rules regarding childcare centers in Michigan;¹ and
- WHEREAS,** Under the Child Care Organizations Act, 1973 PA 116, MiLEAP is responsible for promulgating rules and the licensing rules for childcare centers must undergo a major review by an advisory ad hoc committee not less than once every 5 years and be reviewed biennially by the department; and
- WHEREAS,** The process of revising the proposed rules involved gathering extensive feedback from many stakeholder groups including, Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Bureau of Fire Services, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential, and local health departments; and
- WHEREAS,** According to the Regulatory Impact Statement and Cost-Benefit Analysis provided to the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules, the current rules create barriers that make it more difficult for licensees to recruit and train staff, which contributes to the difficulty that families experience when trying to find affordable childcare;² and
- WHEREAS,** The proposed rule revision would assist in licensees finding and retaining qualified staff and understanding the requirements of the rule, support growth due to the Governor's expansion of PreK for All, streamline processes, and reorganize sections to improve the public's understanding of the rules while also addressing changes required by the federal Office of Child Care to comply with Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) requirements; and
- WHEREAS,** The proposed revisions also aim to improve the health, safety, and well-being of children by including requirements for a food allergy plan, a requirement to provide drinking water from a filtered source, handwashing and bio contaminant precautions, medication administration, emergency preparedness plans, and prohibitions of certain methods of discipline in favor of positive methods used with children to better guide their behavior; and
- WHEREAS,** The Department is currently seeking public comments on the proposed rule changes from all interested parties; and
- WHEREAS,** The Detroit City Council remains committed to the health, safety, and well-being of our children by ensuring that all families have access to quality affordable childcare; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED,** The Detroit City Council supports the adoption of the proposed changes to the administrative rules regarding the licensing of childcare centers; **NOW BE IT FINALLY**

¹ <https://ars.apps.lara.state.mi.us/Transaction/RFRTransaction?TransactionID=1518>

² *Id.*

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Clerk provide a copy of this resolution to the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential and to the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules.