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SENATOR TORY MARIE BLEW 33RD DISTRICT

Chairman Tarwater and members of the Commerce and Economic Development Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today on HB 2294 and share why this bill should be one of our top priorities to pass. Many of us have heard from our constituents that childcare is a major barrier across the state. I believe this is the first step to help create affordable access to childcare. HB 2294 is a compromise that has been worked on over the past two years and is much needed.

HB 2294 is lengthy, but I encourage the committee to read the conference committee report brief from House Sub of House Sub for SB 96 from the 2024 session for a layman's terms understanding to see all the moving parts of this bill. See link below.

https://kslegislature.gov/li_2024/b2023_24/measures/documents/ccrb_sb96_01_2024040 3.pdf

Access to childcare isn't a republican or democrat issue, and this is a great bipartisan bill that I hope you all can support. I'll stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Tory Marie