

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1708

A RESOLUTION designating February 5, 2025, as Early Childhood Advocacy Day and recognizing the need to invest in the future success of Kansas by supporting the well-being and education of our youngest residents as well as the parents and adults who care for them.

WHEREAS, Ninety percent of a child's brain develops before the child enters kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, Meaningful investments in the first five years of a child's life are essential to healthy brain development and sustainable success of Kansas children; and

WHEREAS, Research clearly shows that a child's experience from birth to age five determines the trajectory of such child's entire life—from social and environmental development to academic achievements and career success; and

WHEREAS, Parents are a child's first teachers, and they play a crucial role in ensuring healthy development throughout their developmental stages; and

WHEREAS, Exposure to positive factors, especially stable and responsive relationships with parents, child care providers, early childhood educators and other caring adults, promotes overall development; and

WHEREAS, Investing in a strong foundation helps children develop the skills they need to become independent adults who thrive and contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, The return on our investment in child care, early childhood home visitation, healthcare and education stands out as a particularly unique benefit to our state, which will ultimately save taxpayers dollars in other programs later in life; and

WHEREAS, Access to high-quality, safe, affordable child care and early childhood educational opportunities is critical for Kansas children to succeed and our state's economy to grow and prosper; and

WHEREAS, Children born today will be the citizens and leaders in the decades ahead; and

WHEREAS, Investing in our future leaders now will determine Kansas' trajectory for generations to come: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we designate February 5, 2025, as Early Childhood Advocacy Day; and

Be it further resolved: That we recognize the need to invest in the future success of our state by supporting the well-being and education of our youngest residents as well as the parents and adults who care for them; and

Be it further resolved: That our ongoing investment in early childhood services and high-quality, affordable and licensed child care is an investment in the current and future economic strength of our great state; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send enrolled copies of this resolution to Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities, Harmon and Harmon Family Child Care, Child Care Provider Coalition of Kansas, Kansas Parents as Teachers Association, Kansas Head Start Association, Kansas Children's Service League, The Family Conservancy, Child Care Aware of Kansas, Child Start, Kansas Action for Children, Zero to Thrive and Senator Sykes.

Senate Resolution No. 1708 was sponsored by Senators Sykes, Argabright, Blasi, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Holscher, Petersen, Pettey, Starnes, Titus and Ware.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.