

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

8517 ALDEN LANE
LENEXA, KANSAS 66215
(816) 248-2601



8227 SANTA FE DR.
OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS 66204
(913) 523-6280
lindsayforkansashouse@gmail.com

JO ELLA HOYE
17TH DISTRICT

LINDSAY VAUGHN
22ND DISTRICT

Chair A. Smith, Vice Chair Mason, Ranking Minority Gartner, and committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2414 on behalf of the Legislature Early Learning Caucus. This caucus advocates for increasing access and high-quality learning opportunities for all children ages 0-5 across the state of Kansas. Ninety percent of brain development occurs by the age of 5.

The Blueprint for Early Childhood developed by the Kansas Children's Cabinet and published in January 2020 is our state's strategic framework for ensuring that every child thrives. It promotes working toward high quality, accessible, and affordable programs and services. Kansas communities, whether large, small, urban, or rural, know that it is difficult to recruit a prosperous workforce without high-quality childcare.

This legislation supports and fosters family success through equitable and affordable childcare, and it is good for business. Tax credits can help businesses support their employees' access to childcare. The tax credits shall not exceed \$3,000,000 in credits; HB 2414 does not change the aggregate amount of tax credits available. Increasing the tax credit to 50% will help employers of all sizes provide facilities and equipment for high quality childcare services on or off site for their employees across the State of Kansas.

Childcare is a critical need on par with broadband internet access, affordable housing, and affordable health care. We all want the best for our young children in Kansas.

The Early Learning Caucus members ask that you support HB 2414, an important tool to help make high-quality childcare available to all Kansans.

Thank you.

Jo Ella Hoyer 17

Lindsay Vaughn #22