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KRISTEN O'SHEA
STATE OF KANSAS
SENATOR

SB164 - Proponent
Oral Testimony

Chairman Tyson and Senate Committee Assessment and Taxation,

Finding childcare is an issue I hear as a Senator. Finding childcare is an issue I've experienced as a mom.

Why is it such a challenge? When you look, you'll find a plethora of issues. I believe one of the largest ones includes regulation and I've been working with Senator Blasi on a different bill addressing this. This bill in front of you today affects the income tax of those working with our little ones.

We have a lack of workforce in this industry and pay is very low. Very simply this bill gives back some of the hard earned dollars that our childcare workers receive through an income tax credit.

I'd like to provide an amendment to the bill that also allows owners or those self-employed to receive a tax credit in addition to the employees. See attached. Right now, the bill wouldn't apply to the owner and I believe it needs to.

What I can tell you is this...we have a workforce crisis. Childcare workers increase the capacity of the workforce which we need now more than ever.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 164 and I urge you to vote yes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristen O'Shea".

Senator Kristen O'Shea