

Mayor Mattie Parker Members of the Fort Worth City Council Fort Worth City Hall 1000 Throckmorton St. Fort Worth, Texas 76102

## RE: Support for Childcare Facility Property Tax Exemptions (24-4288)

Mayor Parker and Members of the City Council,

On behalf of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to ask for your support on agenda item 24-4288, establishing an ordinance to exempt qualifying childcare facilities from City property taxes. The Fort Worth Chamber supported this same endeavor as it worked its way through the Texas Legislature last spring and encouraged Texas voters to ratify it as a constitutional amendment last fall.

While we understand this is not a "fix all" solution to childcare affordability, it represents a step in the right direction, and is one we are proud to support. Efforts to reduce the costs of operating a childcare facility result in savings that can be passed on to workers to enhance employee retention, or decrease in overall operating expenditures which can translate to lower prices for consumers.

The ability of families to find affordable childcare is a crucial component to our local workforce ecosystem. It allows for parents to continue working and advancing in their careers, preventing additional labor shortages for area businesses struggling to find workers and fully staff their operations.

I urge you and your colleagues to support this proposed ordinance, recognizing its potential to positively impact both our local economy and the well-being of working families in our community.

Thank you for your service to the City of Fort Worth.

Sincerely,

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Steve Montgomery President & CEO Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce

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