

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

# Coalition on Child Care

*Recognizing the need to expand access to affordable, safe, high-quality child care and early learning options for North Carolina families, the coalition will work to advance appropriate child care funding sources and structures, policy reforms, and innovations aimed at addressing the growing workforce demands on the North Carolina business community. This group is guided by the following principles.*

- Sustain North Carolina's current child care network/availability beyond the impending "fiscal cliff" that will occur when one-time federal funding is depleted or expires in 2023.
- Expand access to safe, high-quality child care in North Carolina to meet current and future demand.
- Encourage and support policies/legislation that prioritize a diverse mix of child care and early learning options that suit the diverse needs of our state's workers.
- Support efforts that define, standardize, and incentivize workforce-value, non-degree credentials to align with in-demand jobs in child care and early learning to help address the child care workforce crisis by expanding the talent pool needed to maximize capacity.
- Promote and support initiatives and policy reforms aimed at developing and growing the childcare workforce, including training, upskilling/reskilling, and technical assistance.
- Promote and support the extension of child care regulatory flexibilities granted during the pandemic when they will help sustain current childcare availability and do not undermine safety or quality.
- Support efforts to improve outdated systems, simplify complicated policies, and streamline and modernize burdensome and costly regulations that present barriers to expanding access to safe, high-quality child care and early learning options.
- Oppose mandates that do not promote best practices regarding child safety and development to prevent an undue increase in child care costs for families, employers, and taxpayers.
- Promote and support policies/legislation that will improve the operating climate in North Carolina for child care businesses, encouraging investment and growth that will expand access to safe, high-quality child care for families.
- The coalition will support efforts, initiatives, and policies to gain and gather necessary data to inform child care policy decisions, as well child care data transparency.
- Support policies, reforms, innovations, and investments in child care and early learning that promote competitiveness, efficiency, predictability, and certainty.

For more information, or to join the coalition, contact Debra Derr,  
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