

February 26, 2025

House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services Oregon State Legislature 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for House Bill (HB) 3560 Childcare Facilities Siting

Chair Hartman and Committee Members,

We write to express our support for HB 3560, which provides more opportunities for the siting of childcare facilities. Clackamas County, and much of Oregon, qualifies as a childcare desert, with many families left without affordable childcare options.

Addressing the childcare shortage will take a complex approach, including improving compensation and workforce development for childcare workers. The Child Care Coalition of Clackamas County has produced an excellent paper outlining the needed steps – you can find that paper here: <u>C5 PolicyPaper-SolvingtheChildCareCris-bc27420.pdf</u>

But creating more opportunities for the siting of childcare facilities both in cities and in the urban unincorporated areas is a crucial piece of the puzzle addressed by HB 3560. In these tight budgetary times, this is a way that the legislature can help enhance childcare capacity without requiring an appropriation. Thus, we encourage you to pass HB 3560.

Lisa M. Batev

City Councilor

Adam Khosroabadi City Councilor