



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Early Childhood Council

Recommendation Number: 20170510-6ci- Continuity of Child Care

WHEREAS, The Early Childhood Council of the City of Austin is charged with making recommendations to the City Council that support optimal development of young *children and their families, continued development of a system of high-quality early care* and education, and cooperative arrangements to support quality early care and education; and

WHEREAS, Today's children are the workforce of the future for the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, There is strong evidence that children who attend high quality child care programs are more likely to be ready for kindergarten than those who do not attend; and

WHEREAS, There is strong evidence that the preschool years are critically important for success in school, likelihood of graduating from high school, and being a productive citizen; and

WHEREAS, Economists and other experts agree that the return on investment in education is greatest for programs offered in the first five years of life; and

WHEREAS, The City of Austin and Travis County are providing funds for child care subsidies to parents who are in job transitions to assure continuous high-quality care for their children;

WHEREAS; There is strong evidence that child care subsidies enable parents to get and maintain employment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Early Childhood Council recommends that the Austin City Council continue funding for continuity of child care at or above the amounts currently invested.

Date of Approval: May 10, 2017

Record of the vote: Motioned by Member Huston; Seconded by Member Wren; Unanimous on a 10-0-1 vote

Vote: For: Members Alvarez, Burson-Polston, Elsner, Harrison, Huston, Overton, Porter, Sanchez, Semple, and Wren; with Member Son recusing

Against: None

Abstain: Member Son

Absent: Member Paver

Attest: _____