



November 3, 2023

Mayor Watson and Members of the Austin City Council
Austin City Hall
301 West 2nd Street
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Mayor Watson and City Council Members,

On behalf of the Austin/Travis County Success By 6 Coalition, we thank you for your continued commitment to supporting families with young children, especially those living with low-income.

We encourage you to adopt Agenda Item 28 during the November 9th City Council Meeting. Adopting Item 28 and implementing the measure to the full extent by waiving 100% of property tax for eligible child care providers will reduce financial burdens for early educators caring for our most vulnerable children.

Success By Six joined parents and providers to advocate for SB1145, which passed with strong bipartisan support during 88th legislative session. This prompted Proposition 2 on the statewide ballot. We are optimistic that Prop 2 will be adopted with strong bipartisan support from voters across the State.

Thank you for taking swift action on Item 28 in response to Proposition 2. We urge you to approve 100% property tax relief for eligible child care providers. As you are aware, this exemption only applies to center-based providers. We urge the City Council to continue to explore mechanism to provide home-based childcare providers with similar property tax relief.

We are grateful to have a City Council that recognizes access to quality, equitable child care is essential for a thriving community. The Success for Six Coalition looks forward to working with you to identify shared priorities so children and families can continue to receive the critical support they need to thrive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Cathy McHorse'.

Cathy McHorse, Vice President
Success By 6
The United Way for Greater Austin

Success by 6 is a coalition of child and family advocates, providers, parents, policymakers, civic leaders, and early childhood experts working together to improve early childhood outcomes that provide a foundation for long-term educational and personal success.