



Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce
201 West 5th Street, 11th Floor
Austin, TX 78701
Nov 7th, 2023

Mayor & City Council
City of Austin

RE: Item #28 Childcare

Dear Mayor Watson and Esteemed Members of the Austin City Council,

I am writing on behalf of the Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce to express our full support for Item #28 on the upcoming Council agenda, which addresses the critical matter of a 100% City of Austin property tax abatement for eligible child care centers and home-based child care providers.

The Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce appreciates the City of Austin's dedication to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for our diverse workforce. We recognize the significance of this initiative, particularly in its efforts to provide financial stability for child care options that are integral to the livelihoods of many working individuals. Home-based child care providers, in particular, play a crucial role in meeting the needs of our community and are often operated by women and women of color.

Child care is not only a fundamental component of our workforce infrastructure but also a key factor in promoting equity and addressing disparities within our community. The proposed property tax abatement aligns with our commitment to creating a business-friendly and inclusive environment that supports the well-being of all individuals, including those from the LGBTQ+ community.

By offering financial relief to eligible child care centers and home-based providers, the City of Austin demonstrates a forward-thinking approach that acknowledges the intersectionality of business ownership, gender, and racial diversity. We believe that supporting this initiative will not only bolster the local economy but also contribute to the resilience and success of child care businesses, especially those operated by women and women of color.

In conclusion, the Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce fully endorses Item #28 and encourages the City of Austin to adopt this proposal. We commend your dedication to creating a city that values diversity, promotes economic stability, and supports the vital services provided by child care centers and home-based child care providers.

Thank you for your time, attention, and commitment to the well-being of our community.

Sincerely,

Tina Cannon
President & CEO
Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Austin LGBT Chamber Board of Directors