

November 12, 2024

The Honorable Jerry Cirino  
Chairman, Workforce and Higher Education Committee  
Senate Building  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: KinderCare Support for S.B. 273 - Establish Child Care Cred Program

Dear Chairman Cirino, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Ingram, and Members of the Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee:

KinderCare Learning Companies proudly serves over 11,500 young children at our 96 high-quality early learning centers and 39 before/after school Champions sites across Ohio. Our world class educators build confidence in students by providing high-quality educational experiences that meet the unique developmental needs of every child in our care. KinderCare serves all children regardless of background and financial circumstance. Approximately 45% of the children we serve depend on financial assistance offered through Ohio's Publicly Funded Child Care program.

KinderCare is proud to support SB 273 (Reynolds) and the creation of the Ohio Child Care Cred Program. We commend the program's efforts to share child care costs and strengthen partnerships between employers, working parents, child care providers, and the Department of Children and Youth (DCY). Far too many hardworking Ohioan families cannot afford or access high-quality care, resulting in decreased work hours or dropping out of the workforce all together. A public-private partnership model is needed to make child care more affordable for families while supporting quality in early learning settings.

For these reasons, KinderCare strongly supports SB 273 through the legislative process. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at [margot.gould@kindercare.com](mailto:margot.gould@kindercare.com).

Sincerely,



Margot Grant Gould  
Sr. Manager, Government Relations  
KinderCare Learning Companies