



**House Children and Human Services Committee  
House Bill 2  
Angela Newman-White, Executive Director  
First Year Cleveland  
March 18, 2025**

Chair White, Vice Chair Salvo, Ranking Member Lett, and members of the House Children and Human Services Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 2. My name is Angela Newman-White, and I am the Executive Director of First Year Cleveland. Our mission is to mobilize the community through partnerships and a unified strategy to reduce infant deaths. We are committed to ensuring that every baby lives to see their first birthday, and every mother has the resources and support to celebrate that milestone.

The Child Care Cred Program would provide financial assistance to families through a cost-sharing model, making quality child care more affordable and accessible. Child care is a necessary, basic need for all Ohio families. It provides an opportunity for caregivers to go to work or school. As an organization dedicated to reducing infant mortality, we understand that affordable and reliable child care plays a vital role in ensuring the well-being of both parents and children. By easing the financial burden, this program will empower families to better care for their children and support their economic stability.

Furthermore, access to quality child care directly contributes to healthy early childhood development, a key factor in preventing adverse health outcomes later in life. This bill not only helps families today but also invests in a healthier future for Ohio's children.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony today. With your support, we can help make a significant impact on our community, especially for families navigating the challenges of early parenthood.

Thank you for your consideration.