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Parent/Advocate
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Testimony on House Bill 96

Chair Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today on House Bill 96.

My name is Tiffany Isaac. I am a parent of three and a representative of the CEO Project. I am here to urge you to support Ohio's children, families, and childcare providers by including the childcare improvements and the Child Tax Credit (CTC) for families with children ages 0–6 that were originally outlined in Governor DeWine's executive budget.

This includes, raising eligibility for childcare assistance for working parents & Funding federally required changes such as reducing copay caps and reimbursing based on enrollment rather than attendance.

As a parent living in Franklin County, I've seen firsthand the struggles families face when access to childcare is limited. One major issue is high staff turnover. Many childcare employees are forced to leave for jobs that can actually pay their bills. This instability deeply affects the quality and availability of care.

The Child Tax Credit could also make a tremendous difference. For my family, it would mean being able to afford tutoring for my 3-year-old son giving him the foundation he needs to succeed in elementary school and beyond. Long term, that kind of early investment helps boost community test scores and increases federal funding for schools in our area.

According to a national poll by First Five Years Fund(2023), nearly **60% of non-full-time working parents** say they would return to full-time work if they had access to affordable, quality childcare. The same poll shows that **many women reduce their hours or leave the workforce entirely** due to childcare challenges—harming not only their immediate financial stability but also their long-term retirement savings.

Ohio families need your support. These investments aren't just about childcare they are about economic mobility, educational equity, and the future of our workforce.

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak today. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.