



February 6, 2026

Rep. Samara Heavrin
Chair, House Families and Children Committee
702 Capital Avenue, Room 381
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Representative Heavrin,

On behalf of the members of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, I am writing to express my support for HB 6, legislation that represents a thoughtful, forward-looking investment in Kentucky's early childhood system. The bill addresses long-standing challenges in access, quality, data transparency, and workforce stability through practical, research-aligned strategies.

HB 6's modernization of the state's quality rating system will help ensure that standards are evidence-based and truly supportive of providers striving to deliver high-quality early learning experiences. The Prichard Committee's Groundswell Initiative work with local communities is particularly aligned with the innovative approach of your bill's strengthened Certified Child Care Community designation that directly responds to the needs of families, employers, and communities—especially those in rural and underserved areas.

I am especially encouraged by the bill's commitment to better data and transparency. Monthly public reporting on child-care supply, capacity, and workforce trends will give policymakers, communities, and families the information they need to make informed decisions. Likewise, the shift toward a cost-estimation model for reimbursement is a meaningful step toward aligning payment rates with the true cost of providing quality care.

These changes, combined with improvements to the Employee Child Care Assistance Partnership, will help relieve financial pressure on families, strengthen the early childhood workforce, and support employers who rely on stable child-care options for their employees.

Thank you for your leadership in championing HB 6. Your work reflects a deep understanding of how critical an integrated early childhood infrastructure is to the wellbeing of children, families, and Kentucky's long-term economic strength. I appreciate your commitment to advancing policies that improve access, affordability, and quality across our state. The Prichard Committee is grateful to have been a deeply engaged partner of the Kentucky Collaborative on Child Care and remains committed to supporting the passage of House Bill 6.

Respectfully,

Brigitte Blom
President and CEO
Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence