



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 Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, I am writing to express our support for House Joint Resolution 50, directing the Auditor of Public Accounts to conduct a comprehensive study of the statutes, administrative regulations, and agency policies that impact the opening and operation of licensed and certified child care services in the Commonwealth.

Kentucky continues to face a serious challenge: families across the state need reliable, high-quality early care and education to participate fully in the workforce, and communities need a strong child care infrastructure to support economic growth. HJR 50 acknowledges this reality by calling for a thoughtful, data-driven review of the public systems that shape child care availability and quality—an essential step toward building a more effective and accessible early childhood landscape.

We appreciate that HJR 50 requires broad stakeholder engagement, including educators, child care providers, parents, local leaders, business representatives, health and safety experts, and higher education partners. This inclusive approach is critical to understanding the real barriers providers face and identifying practical, consensus-driven solutions. We are also encouraged by the resolution's attention to local regulatory challenges and opportunities for greater flexibility and innovation, including the potential for nature-based programs and the use of Kentucky's General Regulatory Sandbox.

Importantly, the resolution's emphasis on maintaining child safety and quality standards while exploring opportunities to streamline and modernize regulations aligns strongly with the Prichard Committee's long-standing commitment to ensuring that every Kentucky child has access to high-quality early learning experiences.

By commissioning this study, the General Assembly can ensure that future decision-making is grounded in comprehensive analysis, stakeholder feedback, and the best available evidence—ultimately strengthening child care access for families and supporting the Commonwealth's workforce and economic vitality.

The Prichard Committee is ready to support this process and collaborate with partners across Kentucky as the study moves forward. We support the adoption of HJR 50 and thank you for your continued commitment to Kentucky's children and families.

Respectfully,

Brigitte Blom
President and CEO
Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence