

February 6, 2012

Senator Lesil McGuire
State Capital Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator McGuire,

On behalf of **thread**, Alaska's Child Care Resource and Referral Network, I am pleased to offer our support for Senate Bill 129, which relates to approval and administration of child care services for the benefit of state employees.

thread promotes accessible, affordable and quality child care and early learning for Alaska's children. For many Alaska families, child care services and early learning programs help them stay employed. Recent studies have shown the early childhood workforce, which numbers close to 7,300 employees, helps keep over 32,000 Alaska residents employed. The reality of Alaska's workforce today is that over 60 percent of households with children have all of the adults in their home working.

However, finding quality and affordable child care in Alaska is often challenging. By offering this legislation, which would ensure new state offices reserve space for child care services, the Alaska State Legislature is taking a significant step in providing increased access to child care for many working families.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our support.

Best Regards,



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