

Presented by: Assemblymember Wheeler
Introduced: 2/11/2002
Drafted by: J.R. Corso

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2138

A Resolution in Support of Health Insurance for Child Care Workers.

WHEREAS, child care employs approximately 5,000 Alaskans, which is more than the total employed by VECO, Alaska Airlines, British Petroleum and GCI combined, thereby establishing the care and education of young children as a major component of the state economy, and

WHEREAS, less than one-third of these workers have health insurance, and the cost for privately purchased health insurance for a full time child care worker would in many cases be over one-third of the worker's income, and

WHEREAS, the lack of health insurance benefits and an average wage of \$8.40 per hour is the leading cause of the 40 percent turnover rate among Alaskan child care workers, and

WHEREAS, the stability and consistency in a child's relationships with care givers is critical to the child's healthy development and to the quality of the care, and

WHEREAS a strong system of high quality, affordable, and accessible child care is important for the economic success of families, to the statewide and Juneau economies, and to the healthy development of our children, and

WHEREAS a buy-in health insurance program for child care workers will contribute to the stabilization of the child care workforce, decrease the turnover rate, and attract qualified people to this important field;

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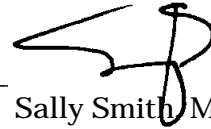
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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. The Assembly urges the Alaska Department of Administration, the Department of Health and Social Services, the Department of Education and Early Development, the Office of the Governor, and the Alaska State Legislature to work with child care professionals to develop and implement a health care buy-in program for child care workers.

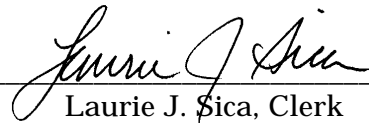
Section 2. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 11th day of February, 2002.



Sally Smith Mayor

Attest:



Laurie J. Sica, Clerk