

November 4, 2025

To: Assembly Committee on Children and Families

From: Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce

Re: Assembly Bill 283

The Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce has served our community since 1915 as the advocate of business. We have 1,000 investor organizations who employ more than 45,000 individuals throughout the Eau Claire area. We work to represent the business community as a champion of a strong local and regional economy.

The Eau Claire Chamber supports AB 283. When enacted, it will provide valuable and impactful flexibility to use the business development tax credit by employers to assist employees with child care services.

This bill addresses an important issue identified in our Chamber Business Issues Agenda:

"The availability and affordability of childcare has become an increasingly acute issue for employers, families, and childcare providers. This has inhibited the ability of families to take full advantage of employment opportunities and for employers to have full access to the potential talent pool. The Chamber supports meaningful public policy solutions to address specific workforce challenges.

There is an urgent need for innovation on the part of the state to address the funding, business model, and regulatory oversight of early childhood care and education in ways that will effectively deal with availability, affordability, and accountability for quality and safety. The Chamber supports the tax credit proposal that provides an avenue for employers to assist their workers with the availability and cost of childcare."

Childcare is a complex issue and this is only one part of the solution, but one that is worthwhile for the state to undertake.

Sincerely,

Scott Rogers

Vice President Governmental Affairs Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce

Reply to: rogers@eauclairechamber.org 715-858-0616