



March 9, 2022

Dear Chair Noor and Members, House Workforce and Business Development Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the seven-county metropolitan area, appreciates the opportunity to comment on HF 3783 – L. Olson, that increases the FY 2023 appropriation for childcare grants.

Metro Cities' policies support access to affordable childcare. City officials recognize childcare access and affordability as pivotal to quality of life and significant to local economic growth and stability. The funding in HF 3783, as amended, would help address the growing need for this necessary service.

The oversubscription of this funding shows the need for more state funds to address this statewide shortage. Cities have heard the challenges of their residents who need to find affordable, accessible, quality care for their children.

Metro Cities appreciates the legislature's attention to this need and supports the funding in this bill.

Respectfully,

Charlie Vander Aarde
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Metro Cities