

CHILD CARE - GROWING AND CONNECTING

RESOLUTION NO. 5

OREGON AFSCME COUNCIL 75 2021 BIENNIAL CONVENTION

WHEREAS:

Oregon AFSCME Council 75 represents in-home, licensed, and registered child care providers across Oregon; and

WHEREAS:

For several years, working families in Oregon have faced chronic shortages of child care providers; and

WHEREAS:

The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant impacts on working families with many providers ~~shuttering~~ [shutting](#) their doors, adding to the shortage of reliable child care¹. This crisis has had a disproportionate impact on women, with nearly one out of four women reporting job loss due to lack of child care; and

WHEREAS:

Many of our essential workers are parents who encounter significant barriers to reliable, affordable, and safe child care. As these workers provide critical services to our community each day, they face near impossible choices between either keeping employment or caring for their children; and

WHEREAS:

Industries and workplaces where workers have union representation have higher job security, lower turnover, and safer working conditions that result in more effective, reliable, and safer services to the people they serve.

¹ [Why has COVID-19 been especially harmful to working women?](#) Brookings Institute, Oct. 2020

28 Union child care provides working families dedicated and high-quality care
29 and support; and

30 **WHEREAS:**

31 The child care industry must be seen and treated as a vital economic
32 engine that is a necessary and integral part of the social infrastructure that
33 keeps our nation working by enabling parents to work while providing the
34 social and educational structures for the nation’s infants, toddlers, and
35 children; and

36 **WHEREAS:**

37 Oregon AFSCME Council 75 recognizes that Oregon doesn’t work without
38 child care. In 2020, AFSCME Child Care Providers Together and Oregon
39 AFSCME Council 75 launched an initiative to connect families with
40 developmentally appropriate, quality, affordable union in-home child care
41 providers and to connect in-home child care providers with union
42 representation, trainings, business and networking support, and more.

43 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

44 Oregon AFSCME Council 75 will build upon the plan launched in 2020 to
45 help connect union members with unionized child care providers; and

46 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

47 Oregon AFSCME Council 75 will push for funding at [the](#) state legislature to
48 support child care providers in growing and maintaining their programs; and

49 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED:**

50 Oregon AFSCME Council 75 will continue to explore and develop programs
51 to support our child care provider members now and in the future.

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53 **SUBMITTED BY:**

54 Oregon AFSCME Council 75 Executive Committee

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