



LETTER OF SUPPORT

Every child is special and unique, but all children need and deserve the same level of health and safety protections while spending time in early care and education settings.

- According to the *Alabama Kids Count Data Book*, published annually by VOICES for Alabama’s Children, since the year 2000 the number of licensed programs in the state has decreased by 60 percent while the number of unregulated and uninspected programs has increased by 40 percent.
- In Alabama, **nearly one-half of center-based child care programs are not licensed or inspected by DHR**, which means they are not required to have meet the Minimum Standards. These include staff criminal background checks, staff-to-child ratios and CPR and First Aid training.
- According to Child Care Aware America, **Alabama is 1 of 7 states** that allow broad-based exemptions from licensure and inspection for child care programs.

By signing below, I support uniform licensing and inspection of all child care programs in Alabama.

Name	Date
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Email	Phone
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Address	City	Zip Code
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Organization	# of Members/Employees
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I will lend my voice by:

- Writing a letter to the editor
- Collecting letters of support
- Sharing my personal story
- Volunteering
- Calling and/or visiting my lawmaker

I have a relationship with the following lawmakers:

**Signing this Letter of Support will add your information to VOICES for Alabama’s Children Child Advocacy Network (VOICES CAN!).*

For more information on VOICES for Alabama’s Children visit: www.alavoices.org
For more information on child care licensing visit: www.alabamachildcarefacts.com
Phone: 334-213-2410 | P.O. Box 4576, Montgomery, AL 36103-4576 | www.alavoices.org