

E4C Executive Committee Members and Founders

- Texas Restaurant Association
- Early Matters
- Texas Association of Business
- Texas 2036

E4C Members

- Abilene Chamber of Commerce
- Aldaco's
- Austin Chamber of Commerce
- The Biscuit Bar
- Bastrop Chamber of Commerce
- Brennan's of Houston
- Brownwood Area Chamber of Commerce
- Burton Insurance Agency
- Cedar Park Chamber of Commerce
- Cisneros Restaurants, Inc.
- Clementine
- Coterra Energy
- Council for a Strong America
- The County Line BBQ
- Dallas Regional Chamber
- Den-Tex Central, Inc. dba Denny's Franchise Restaurants
- Economic Growth Business Incubator
- Extraco Banks
- Feges BBQ
- Fertitta Entertainment
- Flyrite Chicken
- Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce
- Freebirds World Burrito
- The Gambrinus Company (Shiner Beers)
- George's Restaurants
- Grace Restaurant
- Greater Houston Partnership
- Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce
- HattenLuke Hospitality Group
- Holt Group
- Imperative Information Group
- Kerbey Lane Cafe
- L'Oca d'Oro & Bambino
- Lee County EMS
- Lone Star Economic Alliance (LSEA)
- Longview Chamber of Commerce
- Mac's on Main and Mac's Bar & Grill
- Meringue Me
- Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce



May 29, 2025

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Delivered via email.

Governor Abbott:

Thank you for your leadership ensuring Texas remains the top state to do business. We write to you today to ask for your support of several proposals that will address a growing crisis that threatens the Texas miracle—childcare.

Texas is facing a significant workforce shortage because families cannot find affordable, quality childcare. With only 80 available workers for every 100 open jobs in our state and 60% of non-working parents citing childcare as a top reason they're unable to work, this problem is already costing our economy over \$11 billion every year.

Our four organizations launched the Employers for Childcare Task Force (E4C) at the end of 2023 to develop and advocate for policy reforms that could address this challenge from the workforce development lens that has made Texas an economic powerhouse. We're proud that over 75 businesses, business groups, and business leaders have joined E4C so far, with members representing every corner and major industry of our state.

Together, we write to you today to ask for your support of the following E4C priority bills that made it through the legislative process:

- HB 4903 by Harris Davila and Birdwell, which works with the Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office created by SB 14 to reconcile conflicting and duplicative regulations and align initiatives between the four state agencies with significant oversight over childcare in Texas.
- HB 3963 by Capriglione and Paxton, which improves cross-agency data sharing on early childhood programs, allowing policymakers to prioritize ROI while safeguarding privacy and security.
- HB 117 by Schoolcraft and Campbell, which creates the Governor's Task Force on the Governance of Early Childhood Education and Care to consider opportunities for a large-scale redesign that will improve Texas' childcare outcomes.

- New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce
- NFIB Texas
- North Texas Commission
- Odessa Chamber of Commerce
- Opportunity Austin
- The Original Pancake House DFW
- The Pelican House Restaurant
- Permian Strategic Partnership
- Philanthropy Advocates
- Pinthouse Pizza
- Raising Up Rural
- Samsung Austin Semiconductor
- San Marcos Area Chamber of Commerce
- Sandy Dochen
- Sugar Beet Kitchen
- Texas Association of Manufacturers
- Texas Association of Staffing
- Texas Business Leadership Council
- Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute
- Texas Hospital Association
- Texas Hotel and Lodging Association
- Texas Instruments
- Texas Mutual Insurance Company
- Texas Retailers Association
- Texas Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)
- Texas Travel Alliance
- Thirty Five Tavern & Grill, Manhattan Heights Tavern & Grill, Border City Ale House, and Hudson's Grill
- Three Brothers Bakery
- Tom Hedrick
- Traveler's Table
- USLege
- VRV Public Relations
- Zero Degree Creations

The Employers for Childcare Task Force (E4C) is a non-partisan, diverse group of business leaders who are working together to develop and advocate for public policy reforms to expand working families' access to affordable, quality childcare in Texas. Visit us at www.txrestaurant.org/e4c.

Questions? Please contact:

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We also ask for your support of SB 1's allocation of \$100 million in unexpended Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Family (TANF) funding to serve more working families through the Child Care Assistance Program at the Texas Workforce Commission. This funding is expected to serve approximately 10,000 additional children and their families, creating hireable workers that our members urgently need to maintain our state's economic growth.

Finally, we also want to thank you for signing SB 1265 by Alvarado and Harris Davila, SB 462 by Kolhorst and Harris Davila, and SB 599 by West and Davis since these bills were also on our E4C priority list.

Resolving the growing childcare crisis will require immediate and systemic, long-term solutions. The Texas Legislature passed policies that answer both needs, as outlined above. With your leadership, the state can finally begin to address childcare as the urgent economic development issue that it is, enacting policies that will strengthen families, fuel business growth, and protect the Texas miracle for years to come.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to our great state. We look forward to continuing to work with your office on this critical economic issue.

Sincerely,

Emily Williams Knight, President & CEO, Texas Restaurant Association
 Wendy Uptain, Executive Director, Early Matters
 Glenn Hamer, President & CEO, Texas Association of Business
 David Leebron, President & CEO, Texas 2036



earlymatters

