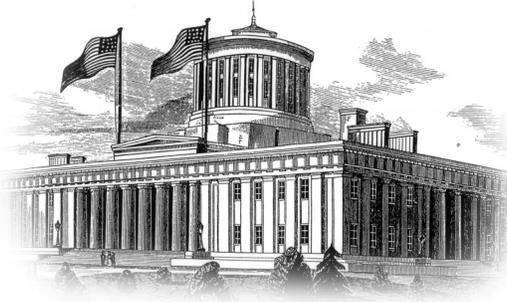


THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
THE STATE OF OHIO



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State Representative Josh Williams

Ohio House of Representatives
77 S High St, Columbus, OH 43215
614-466-1418
Rep44@ohiohouse.gov

Date: 12/30/2025

Kara Wentz, Director of Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Office of Family Assistance/Child Care
246 N. High St., 8th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215-2406

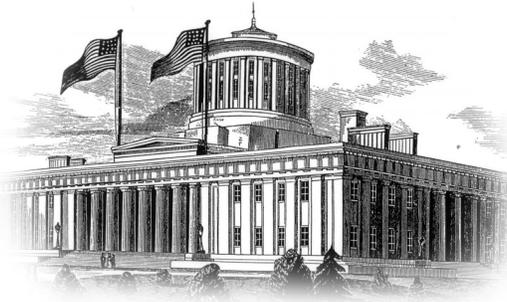
Re: Request for Increased Unannounced Inspections of Columbus-Area Child Care Facilities

To Kara Wentz,

I, along with the undersigned members of the Ohio General Assembly, respectfully request that the Ohio Department of Children and Youth increase the frequency of **unannounced inspections** of childcare facilities, particularly those operating within the Columbus, Ohio region.

There have been widespread public reports alleging that certain childcare facilities participating in publicly funded childcare programs are fraudulently billing the State of Ohio for children who are not actually in attendance. These allegations raise serious concerns regarding program integrity, the responsible use of taxpayer dollars, and the overall credibility of Ohio's publicly funded childcare system.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
THE STATE OF OHIO



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ohio families deserve assurance that public resources dedicated to childcare are being used lawfully, ethically, and in compliance with all state regulations. Unannounced inspections are an essential tool to identify violations, deter fraudulent practices, and reinforce confidence in the oversight of publicly funded programs.

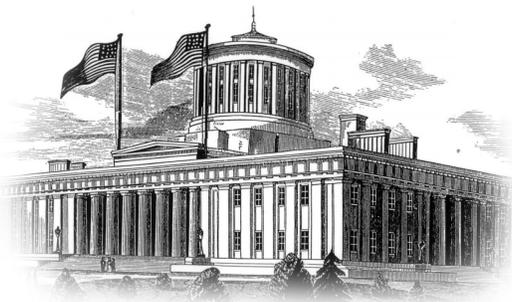
Accordingly, we respectfully request that DCY:

1. Conduct increased **unannounced inspections** of Columbus-area childcare facilities receiving state funding;
2. Audit attendance records and billing submissions to identify potential fraudulent reporting;
3. Immediately suspend or withhold any further state payments to any childcare facility where inspections or audits indicate probable fraud, false attendance reporting, or other material misrepresentations, pending full investigation and adjudication;
4. Refer any substantiated cases of fraud to the appropriate prosecuting authorities;
5. Provide the General Assembly with a summary of findings and any resulting enforcement actions or recommended policy changes; and
6. Continue cooperation with the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services' inspection programs and assets.

Taxpayer dollars must be protected, and entities found abusing publicly funded programs must be swiftly held accountable. Continuing to direct state funding to facilities suspected of fraudulent conduct is unacceptable, and the Ohio House of Representatives will act accordingly based on the findings and seriousness of this investigation.

We appreciate DCY's ongoing work in this area and expect decisive and immediate action to ensure accountability, protect families, and safeguard state resources.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
THE STATE OF OHIO



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

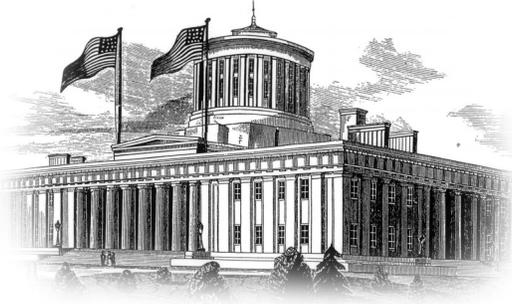
Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your response.

Respectfully,

Rep. Josh Williams
Ohio House of Representatives
44th House District

And the Undersigned Members of the Ohio General Assembly

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
THE STATE OF OHIO



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Jean Schmidt *BOCD* *McLain Hill*

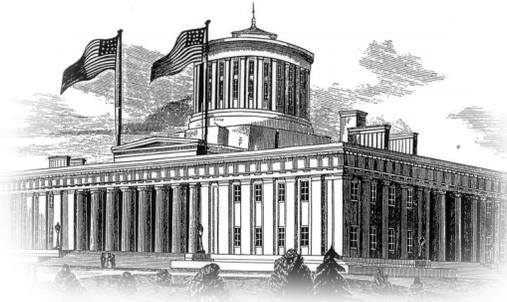
Thom Patterson *K* *HL* *KS Miller*

Alan Miller *Bell Roemer* *Jim Baker*

Jennifer Gross *Leresa D. Mullins* *BJ*

M. G. *Michael J. Smith.* *T. Matthews*

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
THE STATE OF OHIO



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monica Reel Bee

John A. H. H. H.

Levi Dean Roy Klopfenstein Gary Click

Ma A. K. James M. Hoops Tom Young

Tracy M. Richardson Marilyn S. John Beth Lear

Cindy Abrams Brian Johnson

Rep. Phil Plummer, Rep. Matthew Kishman, Rep. David Thomas, Rep. Tex Fischer, Rep. Angie King, Rep. Heidi Workman, Rep. D.J. Swearingen, Rep. Johnathan Newman, Rep. Sarah Fowler Arthur, Rep. Kellie Deeter, Rep. Jean Schmidt, Rep. Rodney Creech, Rep. Melanie Miller, Rep. Kevin Ritter, Rep. Thomas Hall, Rep. Kevin Miller, Rep. Adam Mathews, Rep. Bill Roemer, Rep. Tim Barhorst, Rep. Jennifer Gross, Rep. Diane Mullins, Rep. Brian Lampton, Rep. Meredith Craig, Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Ty Mathews, Rep. Monica Robb Blasdel, Rep. Jack Daniels, Rep. Nick Santucci, Rep. Levi Dean, Rep. Roy Klopfenstein, Rep. Gary Click, Rep. Mark Hiner, Rep. Jim Hoops, Rep. Tom Young, Rep. Tracy Richardson, Rep. Marilyn John, Rep. Beth Lear, Rep. Cindy Abrams, Rep. Brian Lorenz, Rep. Mark Johnson, Rep. Bernard Willis