



## Texas Association for the Education of Young Children

**Use #TXECEWINS and these suggested facts for tweets to get early childhood education in Texas trending!**

### **General Early Childhood**

- Investments in high-quality early childhood education build on brain development research, strengthen our current and future workforce, and help all young children have a fair shot at success.
- Excited to see so many individuals, on both sides of the aisle, talking about child care, early learning, and the needs of working families.
- Working parents pay more of their income to have their infant in child care than they would pay to send that same child to a year at a four-year public college.
- The average annual cost of infant care in Texas is \$8,759—that's \$730 per month.
- Average child care for a 4-year-old in Texas costs \$6,730, or \$561 each month.
- Highly skilled, supported and knowledgeable early childhood educators are critical to providing high-quality early childhood education, they are paid an average wage of
- \$9.46/hour, which undermines quality and diminishes the benefits.

### **HB 1682/SB 708: Child Care Safety Data Collection**

- Over 1.1 million Texas children are enrolled in licensed child care, Texas lacks the necessary data to ensure they are in safe, supportive environments. Help collect ratio data so we can make improvements.
- To make an informed decision to keep children safe regarding ratios, we need to collect data on current child care ratios we support HB1682/SB 708.
- Early care and education programs play a critical role in helping kids eat healthy, stay active and maintain a healthy weight.
- HB 1682 and SB 708 would provide healthier options for child care programs to provide the children in their care as well as improve their physical activity and reduce their screen time.

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