

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
- 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 - Fort Worth
- 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
- Lee County EMS
- L'Oca d'Oro & Bambino
- Longview Chamber of Commerce
- Mac's on Main and Mac's Bar & Grill
- Meringue Me
- New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce
- NFIB Texas



Blueprint for Texas' 89th Legislative Session

E4C Priorities

- 1. Pass employer partnership legislation to make it easier for employers of all sizes to innovate and help their employees find affordable, quality childcare.** One bill can create:
 - A resource hub consolidating existing and new programs at the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to ensure businesses have a one-stop shop to find information and best practices on childcare supports for their workforce. *No cost.*
 - A new Childcare Innovation Pilot Program with one-time funds to competitively award grants to existing, quality providers to expand capacity to meet clearly defined, local workforce needs. This program builds on a successful pilot in Fort Worth that created increased enrollment, improved teacher retention, and reduced tuition for families. *Cost: \$50 - \$100 million over two biennia would support between 5,472 and 11,020 children.*
 - A new employer matching program with franchise tax credits to help businesses provide childcare benefits to their employees. Employees will be able to use their benefits at any TWC-qualified provider licensed in the state. *Cost: \$50 million a year would provide a benefit (state match and/or tax credit) worth \$3,600 to about 12,500 employees/employers per year.*
- 2. Require TWC and the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to collaborate on a process that will streamline childcare regulations to (1) lower childcare providers' insurance costs; (2) protect health, safety, and quality; and (3) create consistent and reasonable enforcement mechanisms.** *No or minimal cost.*
 - Childcare providers report that liability insurance costs are skyrocketing and very few insurance companies remain in Texas to write these policies.
 - This growing crisis not only threatens the viability of childcare businesses, but it also results in increased tuition costs for families.

- Odessa Chamber of Commerce
- Opportunity Austin
- The Original Pancake House DFW
- The Pelican House Restaurant
- Permian Strategic Partnership
- Philanthropy Advocates
- Pinhouse Pizza
- Raising Up Rural
- San Marcos Area Chamber of Commerce
- Sandy Dochen
- Sugar Beet Kitchen
- Texas Association of Manufacturers
- Texas Association of Staffing
- Texas Business Leadership Council
- Texas Hospital Association
- Texas Hotel and Lodging Association
- 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
- 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.

To join or learn more visit www.txrestaurant.org/e4c.

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- Childcare providers also report that while some regulations are important from a health, safety, and quality perspective, being overseen by two different state agencies can create regulatory inconsistency, especially when it comes to enforcement.
- Through a collaborative, inter-agency process, Texas can create the right set of regulations to lower costs while protecting health, safety, and quality.

3. Improve cross-agency childcare data sharing and reporting so the state can better understand opportunities and outcomes.

Cost: Anticipated minimal implementation and ongoing expenses that may be offset by federal funds and/or existing agency resources.

- Because different state agencies oversee pieces of childcare and each manage their own data, the state needs better systems to coordinate insights that will drive improved programming and policymaking.
- With implementation resources and authority, relevant state agencies can address this need through an ongoing data integration program known as an ECIDS–Early Childhood Integrated Data System.

Additional Policies E4C Proactively Supports

1. Maintain the existing Sunset scheduling dates for TWC and HHSC (2026-2027 cycle), so that the Texas Legislature can evaluate the proper regulatory structure for childcare in a timely fashion. *No cost.*
2. Strengthen the workforce behind the workforce by creating a new priority category to help already eligible childcare workers obtain a childcare subsidy without waiting months or years on a waitlist. This shores up childcare capacity for all working families. *No cost.*
3. Remove local regulatory barriers that increase costs for home-based childcare providers that are already regulated extensively by the state. *No cost.*