



May 28, 2020

Dear Mayor Jensen and Assembly,

We are writing in support of Resolution 2020-8, specifically to give economic support to all of Petersburg's licensed childcare providers who experienced economic hardship due to the public health emergency.

Lack of access to quality affordable childcare affects employers and employees. Research by the US Chamber of Commerce indicates that 74% of working parents said their jobs have been affected by childcare problems. Missed work, reduced work schedules cost both the employee and the employer. The current public health emergency has only exasperated this situation.

Petersburg is not alone. With over 40% of childcare providers closed across the state, many communities are facing a similar situation. Recently, the Juneau Assembly allocated funds to sustain childcare providers and the Sitka Assembly is also considering a similar effort.

We encourage you to make this important investment to our local economy.

Sincerely,

Casey Flint
President
PEDC Board of Directors