



**The Family Resource Center**

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee;

The Center is a non-profit child care center licensed by KDHE for 338 children and is located in Pittsburg, Kansas. We were founded in 1995 by Pittsburg State University, Mt. Carmel Medical Center (now Ascension Via Christi) and Pittsburg Community Schools to bring kids to school ready to learn. In addition to being a child care provider, we have always worked with home based child care providers to increase access to care, improvement of quality and collaborating on professional development.

The loophole that has existed for years regarding the county and state's ability to fine illegal child care has been a problem. I support this bill because I believe all providers of child care must meet minimum safety requirements. Specifically, I believe anyone caring for infants, toddler and preschoolers should have basic health and safety knowledge, how to reduce SIDS and how to avoid traumatic brain injury. Please help keep our kids safe by passing Senate Bill 312. I would be pleased to visit you about my experiences with illegal child care or to share our great community's story about how we have been committed to early childhood investments in Pittsburg for 25 years.

Sincerely,

Ann Elliott  
Executive Director  
Family Resource Center  
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