

Testimony as Prepared for Delivery in support of HB23-1235: Technical Modification to Department of Early Childhood by Riley Kitts, Senior Director of Policy and Government Affairs at the Colorado Children's Campaign

House Education Committee

Mar. 29, 2023, Upon Adjournment

- Thank you, Madam Chair and thank you members of the committee. My name is Riley Kitts and I am the Sr. Director of Policy & Government Affairs at the Colorado Children's Campaign.
- The Children's Campaign is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, research, policy, and advocacy organization dedicated since our founding nearly 40 years ago to advocating for data-driven public policy that improves child and family well-being.
- The Colorado Children's Campaign is in support of House Bill 23-1235, Technical Modification to Department of Early Childhood.
- You have heard about the very specific technical changes to statute, including updates to outdated acronyms and alignments of dates and deadlines.
- These changes will ensure that CDEC is best equipped to realize the long-term vision of HB22-1295: a unified and streamlined early childhood system that better supports families and providers.
- I would like to give a shout-out to Rep. Sirota, and the other sponsors of HB1295, as well as a huge thank you to the Office of Legislative Legal Services, especially Alana Rosen, and of course, the great Julie Pelegrin, who retired last fall.
- 1295 was a nearly 600-page bill, and these were the only technical things that were missed? That is amazing and a testament to the great drafters you all have in OLLS.
- We also appreciate the Department of Early Childhood's frequent and transparent communication with stakeholders about the specific technical changes included in the bill. CDEC staff have been transparent and requested feedback on this bill on multiple occasions.
- **Please vote yes on House Bill 23-1235.** Thank you, Rep. Sirota, and members of the committee.