



The Prichard Committee

Building a Groundswell for a Big Bold Future

March 8, 2024

The Honorable Timmy Truett
Vice Chair, House Education Committee
Kentucky State Capitol Annex Building
702 Capital Avenue
Annex Room 424C
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Vice Chairman Truett:

The Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence writes to express support for House Bill 279. High-quality early education programs, like full-day kindergarten, supports the development of young learners, reduces achievement gaps in grade level preparedness, and increases the likelihood of long-term benefits in educational achievement throughout a student's lifetime.

Our support for House Bill 279 is rooted in the following:

- National Education Association studies demonstrate that children in full-day classes show greater reading and mathematics achievement gains than those in half-day classes.
- Full-day kindergarten supports parent workforce participation.
- Supporting full-day kindergarten aligns with the Prichard Committee's Big Bold Future vision and Big Bold asks for fully funded all-day kindergarten.

We believe that HB 279 is a step forward in achieving a stronger, more equitable commonwealth through education. We stand ready to support you and your colleagues to make fully-funded full-day kindergarten a reality for Kentucky families.

Best,

Brigitte Blom
President & CEO
Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence