

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