**Proclamation by [Governor/Mayor]**

Provider Appreciation Day

May 6, 2022

WHEREAS, Child Care Aware® of America and other organizations nationwide are recognizing Child Care Providers on this day; and

WHEREAS, over half the children under the age of six nationwide are estimated to spend some time in a nonparental care arrangement on a weekly basis, which provides critical enrichment opportunities and nurtures development for children of all backgrounds and is a vital building block of our state economy; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has created tremendous hardship for child care providers and the families of [state] who depend on them, who have continued to meet the needs of families while risking their health and financial stability to remain open; and

WHEREAS, [state] recognizes these hardships and has provided much-needed relief to providers to help sustain the viability of child care by [insert 2-3 state policies supports for child care introduced during pandemic]; and

WHEREAS, our future depends on the quality of the early childhood experiences provided to young children today; support for high-quality child care represents a worthy commitment to our children's future.

Now, therefore, I, [name of official], [Governor/Mayor] of the [state/city], hereby proclaim May 6, 2022, as Provider Appreciation Day in [state/city] and urge all citizens to recognize Child Care Providers for their important work.