

Offered by City Councilor Michelle Wu Pressley, O'Malley, LaMattina, Jackson, Flaherty, Linehan and Yancey



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS INCENTIVIZING ON-SITE CHILD CARE IN NEW COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

*WHEREAS:* Boston is undergoing a period of strong economic growth attracting new businesses, and increased commercial development; and

*WHEREAS:* Increasing numbers of employees are struggling to secure affordable quality child care so that they may stay in the workforce, with 64% of mothers with children under 6 years old remaining in the workforce, with 60% of two-parent families having both parents working; and with almost 70% of women who are single mothers in the workforce; and

*WHEREAS:* Child care is one of the biggest expenses that a family faces, with Child Care Aware of America finding that the average monthly fee for an infant in child care is more expensive than the average cost of feeding a family of four, and coordinating the logistics of child care away from home or work adds to this financial and emotional stress; and

*WHEREAS:* Having child care available at work can be an economic benefit for employers, with studies having shown reduced turnover and absenteeism for workers with access to on-site child care; and

*WHEREAS:* Encouraging new commercial developments to include child care facilities on-site would help families, employers, and children; NOW

*THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED,*

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss incentivizing the co-location of on-site child care facilities in any new commercial development in Boston; and that the Mayor's Office of Economic Development, the Boston Redevelopment Authority, the Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement, and any other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: September 2, 2015