



The Colorado  
Health Foundation™

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January 31, 2018

Colorado Department of Human Services  
1575 Sherman Street  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Director Bicha & Members of the Colorado State Board of Human Services,

The Colorado Health Foundation strongly urges you to adopt the school-aged child care rules as proposed. We believe they will help ensure that children spend quality time in settings that are safe, healthy and supportive. Colorado's school-age child care providers play a vital role in supporting the healthy development of our children. For the more than 80,000 children and families who depend on these centers, assurance that they provide physical and emotional supports and a healthy environment is essential.

We greatly appreciate the Department's willingness to listen to the feedback of the health community over the past several years as various child care regulations have been updated. We sincerely hope that this week's vote on the school-aged child care regulations continues down the path of supporting good health for Coloradans that the Board has been following. The proposed rules make meaningful progress in a number of areas the Foundation knows will help to bring health in reach for even more Coloradans. We applaud the inclusion of social and emotional health supports, the regulation of sugar-sweetened beverages, the alignment of meal and snack standards with USDA requirements, the assurances that children will engage in physical activity time and the limitation of screen time during meals.

We know that all of the proposed recommendations are rooted in strong science and evidence about what works to provide children with the healthy supports they need daily. These rules mark a significant step forward in advancing children's health, nutrition, social-emotional development and safety in school-age child care and would be a notable improvement to Colorado's current rules.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit comments, and encourage the Human Services board to continue to provide thoughtful leadership to improve the health of Colorado's children by approving these rules as proposed. Should you have any questions, please contact Sara Monge, public policy officer at the Colorado Health Foundation, at [smonge@coloradohealth.org](mailto:smonge@coloradohealth.org) or 303-953-3664.

Sincerely,

Kyle Legleiter  
Senior Policy Officer  
Colorado Health Foundation

