



WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON

**children
& families**

Raising Voices to Make Every Kid Count

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WCCF Statement on JFC's Approval of Funding for YoungStar
16-0 Vote Represents a Big Victory for Wisconsin's Children

The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families (WCCF) is celebrating today's decision by the Joint Committee on Finance to approve funding to launch the YoungStar child care quality rating and improvement system. We commend members of the committee for recognizing the importance of investing in the quality of early care and education services, and thank them for unanimously supporting the program. We congratulate the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Gov. Doyle on their successful effort to shepherd this critical program along the difficult path from conception to final approval. WCCF is grateful to members of the Early Learning Coalition and the vast network of advocates and business and civic leaders across the state for helping bring about this significant victory for children and families in Wisconsin. We look forward to working with DCF, legislators, and other stakeholders to ensure that YoungStar is implemented smoothly, as we continue to move toward a coherent, uniformly excellent statewide early care and education system.

Ken Taylor, executive director
Wisconsin Council on Children and Families