

CHILD CARE

(Adopted 5/85, reviewed 2000)

The League of Women Voters of Thurston County believes that a primary indicator of the strength of a society is the value which that society places upon the nurturing of its children. The League recognizes that certain social and economic trends have greatly increased the demand for the provision of child care outside of the family, and therefore takes the following positions on the provision of such child care in Thurston County:

- We believe that the nurturing of our children is the responsibility of all elements of the community, and encourage a partnership between the public and private sectors to support this concern.
- We believe a variety of high-quality, affordable child care services should be available to those who need them.
- We believe the State of Washington should establish and fund a regulatory system to implement standards for child care services, including adequate training for those charged with administering such regulatory programs.
- We encourage the development and utilization of creative approaches to funding and subsidizing child care services.
- We encourage the development of efficient systems for the delivery of financial support to child care programs.
- We support the use of public building to meet the needs for child care services.
- We encourage employers to provide or fund child care services as part of employee benefit programs.
- We value the nurturing of children and support adequate compensation for those who choose child care as a profession.
- We support education and training for all personnel involved in the delivery of child care services.
- We support innovative methods for providing continuing training for all child care personnel.
- We support a resource and referral system to help parents locate and select prospective providers of child care services.
- We support the delivery of information to parents regarding child care program regulations.

