WHEREAS, National Provider Appreciation Day, also known as National Child Care Provider Day, is celebrated on May 12, 2023; and

WHEREAS, child care providers offer the opportunity for parents who live in our City to work, attend school, or participate in a job training program while their children are in nurturing environments; and

WHEREAS, Florida is home to 1.3 million children under the age of 6, and nearly 50,000 children in Broward County attend one of the 800+ early education programs each day in Broward County; and

WHEREAS, there are 14 child care programs in Coconut Creek, ranging from small and large private businesses, family child care homes, faith-based programs, and public school settings, that employ over 100 early learning educators to support working families; and

WHEREAS, the dedication of early child care educators enabled many child care facilities to remain open at the height of the pandemic to ensure that child care services remained available for approximately 3,000 Broward County first responders' children to be served; and

WHEREAS, high-quality early education experiences give young children the best start in school and life so families, communities, the state, and the nation can thrive; and

WHEREAS, the Early Learning Coalition of Broward County's mission is to provide the resources, advocacy, leadership, coordination, and oversight for early care and education from birth to school-age and to support access to school-age care to ensure children's success in school.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek, Florida, hereby proclaims May 12, 2023, as

"NATIONAL CHILD CARE PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY"

in the City of Coconut Creek, to honor its child care educators' commitment to facilitating high-quality care and early learning.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the seal of the City of Coconut Creek to be affixed this 11th day of May, 2023.