

**TO: Labor and Public Employees Committee**

**DATE: February 15, 2007**

**RE: Raised Bill No. 7034, An Act Concerning Collective Bargaining Rights For In-Home State Subsidized Day Care Providers**

Dear Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee:

My name is Lynn Zinker and I run a licensed in-home day care in West Haven. My day care has been in operation for 11 years.

I urge you to support Raised Bill No. 7034, **An Act Concerning Collective Bargaining Rights for In-Home State Subsidized Day Care Providers**

Everyday is a new experience for a child, and my home is dedicated to the children and their learning. I take pride in my job and love being around the children. I discipline them, pick them up from the bus stop and make sure they walk safely back to my home. I even get down on the floor and play with the children and have just as much energy as they do.

I love my job, but I sometimes have trouble making ends meet. My health insurance costs me over \$300 a month. It's important that I stay healthy so I can continue to be active and playful with the children.

Collective Bargaining will ensure that in-home day care providers offer consistent care by allowing us to negotiate fairer wages, affordable health care, and increased training and education. Allow providers to work with the State to make our early education system better by bargaining collectively through a representative of our choice. Please support Raised Bill No. 7034.

Lynn Zinker

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