

**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**

Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee:

Perhaps you have **HEARD** that high blood pressure, cancer, lung disease, high cholesterol and others are **SILENT KILLERS**. Great scientists are working everyday trying to find methods and cures for these diseases and rightfully so. Those who suffer from the conditions are hopeful that something will be done, while those not affected by them, hope they will never have to deal with it.

Child care providers must also be **HEARD** and **NO LONGER SILENT**. It is important to me and my colleagues that our voices are heard throughout the state of Connecticut regarding the many issues we as early childhood teachers face daily. Therefore, through SEIU and its collective bargaining efforts we have a voice.

As an early childhood professional providing a safe, healthy and developmentally appropriate environment for young children is my primary goal. Like the great scientists that are working to find methods and cures for diseases, we too are working 50 hours or more to provide for our families as well as for others. And rightfully so, the bible is quoted as saying, "If a man doesn't work he can't eat." I would like to extend that to "he can't eat, drink, pay rent, and many other things."

What I am requesting today is that you like the great scientists and all of us early childhood professionals work diligently to find methods and cures for the many diseases that plague early childhood professionals. Cancer, High Cholesterol, Lung Disease, High Blood Pressure are all silent killers. No health insurance, low wages and no voice to be heard are also **SILENT KILLERS** that affect early childhood professionals.

The time is now. Stop the disease now and let's work together for the betterment of our children and state. Please Support Raised Bill Number 7034. Give us the freedom to collectively bargain.

Sincerely,

Rosie Jones-Clarke  
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