

**TO: Committee on Human Services**

**DATE: March 13, 2007**

**RE: Raised Bill No. 1382 AN ACT CONCERNING PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE TO PERSONS PROVIDING CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE**

Members of the Human Services Committee:

My name is Candice Chambers. I am an unlicensed in home child care provider in Bozrah.

I urge you to support Raised Bill No. 1382, **AN ACT CONCERNING PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE TO PERSONS PROVIDING CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE**

I provide childcare for my grandson Benjamin most days. Presently he is enrolled in preschool, but during the summer months I provide full time childcare while my daughter is at work. Benjamin was originally enrolled in a state-run daycare facility, but my daughter and I felt that we could provide much better quality care in my home. This way my grandson can get the individual attention and care that only family can provide.

Like most people, my husband and I must work to pay our bills. That means that I don't have the luxury of dropping out of the workforce to care for Benjamin. The time that I spend watching my Grandson is time that I would otherwise spend working. The Care4Kids program made it possible for me to work fewer hours, but because the subsidy rate is so low, it would have been impossible for me to watch Benjamin without my husband's income.

The grants created in this bill will allow me to purchase more educational items to better prepare my grandson Benjamin for his schooling. With the freedom to bargain with the State through a representative of our choosing we will have the ability to raise standards for my family and for other families like mine. The Please Support Raised Bill No. 1382.

Candice Chambers

8 South Road

Bozrah, CT

(860) 859-2562