

Education Committee

March 7, 2011

S.B. No. 1106 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT.

Dear Senator Stillman, Representative Fleischmann and members of the Education Committee,

My name is Mary Garnes, and I'm a home-based provider from Hartford. I am writing you to ask for your support for S.B No. 1106. This bill would give us opportunities to work directly with the state to improve Connecticut child care as well as our profession. Some of the improvements that I'd like to see would be access to affordable health insurance and direct deposit of provider reimbursements. Improvements such as these would allow providers like me to spend more time doing what we love and less time worrying about our health and running back and forth to the bank. They would also keep more providers in the profession and possibly attract new ones- which would raise quality for everyone. Please support S.B. No. 1106 for the future of quality care in Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Mary Garnes

163 Thomaston Street

Hartford, CT 06112