

The Kovacs Family Day School
13 Sydney lane
Cromwell, Ct 06416
February 21, 2011
To Whom it May Concern,

I'm writing to support case #HB5287-AAC. My name is Cori Kovacs and I am the owner of The Kovacs Family Day School in Cromwell, Ct. My husband and I have owned our daycare for three years. I was a teacher for five years and also have two young children. I believe I have a unique prospective regarding the need for a facility that cares for children who must leave daycare due to a minor illness. I have had my own children be sick enough that I have had to close our business (a great financial loss), and I have watched countless parents scramble to find care for their sick children.

Connecticut is in desperate need of an urgent care facility that will take children with mild illness that cannot legally attend "regular" daycare. This issue cannot be ignored any longer. We are in a society that requires both parents work out of the home. Though some are better than others, many employers are not sympathetic to parents who have sick children, leaving them frantic. Simply put, an urgent care facility would allow parents to have their sick children cared for without a major impact to their work day. Having gone through the licensing procedure for both a family daycare and now a group daycare, I do believe appropriate licensing is necessary. It provides both a guideline for basic business and care and provides parents with peace of mind.

As a provider, I become close with both the child and their parents. I feel the worry in parents as they realize I am calling because their child has another fever, cough or GI issue. I have heard the fear of losing their jobs because they simply have no more time to take off. I feel like I am letting them down when I express understanding, but still expect that their child be picked up as the law requires me to do so. Through this very difficult winter which included many missed work days due to snow and extensive mild illnesses, I have watched parents, many of which have absolutely no other child care option, struggle to keep their jobs intact as they juggle the many missed days. The impact of this has been great, and the results sad. Many take days off without pay (an option they can't afford). I have parents bring sick kids(hoping the Tylenol doesn't wear off), avoid my calls during the day and even cry at the prospect of missing another day of work. Parents need support.

I have always been proud to live in Connecticut. We are a people who value our children and communities. It has been said many times that "it takes a village to raise a child" it's on this touching and important notion that I support case #HB5287-AAC and hope that you will as well.

Sincerely,
Cori Kovacs

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Cori and Phil Kovacs
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