

March 13, 2012  
Labor Committee  
In Support of S.B. 352

My name is Cecile Schroeter and I'm a licensed childcare provider in Hartford, and I offer this testimony in support of S.B. I came here from London in February 1983. I've taken up a lot of professions. I've worked as a hairdresser and also in the culinary arts. Being a childcare provider is the last profession I'll ever have. I want to make a difference in the lives of these children and prep them for Kindergarten.

I earned a CDA at Goodwin College and am presently working on my Associates Degree in Child Development. I've been working for about 6 years and have been licensed and with C4K since May 2011.

I am a childcare provider that nurtures and educates the children throughout the day. Our day starts with interacting with colors, shapes, numbers, and letters. We then have circle time in the morning, where we ask about our weekends, sing songs, finger play, and we talk about what day it is. I serve breakfast each morning at 9am and I make sure they're properly fed throughout the day. This is all essential to preparing them for Kindergarten.

We, as providers, need more access to trainings in order to keep up with educational developments and better educate our children. New things come up where everyone has different ideas on how to help children grow and develop. For instance, including coffee beans in art projects to help children develop sensory skills, learn different textures, use their imagination, etc.. Learning from other professional educators is how we, as providers, can bring new skills from larger centers into our homes.

I am not speaking for myself; I am speaking for the children. This is for their education, and to support us in giving them the knowledge that they need to have a better future. As a childcare educator, I would like to support advances in early childhood education to make their futures better. Please support my effort for C4K to make changes in order for us to prioritize quality childcare. Please vote YES on SB 352.

Cecile Schroeter  
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