

March 12, 2012
Joanne B. Gagnon
4 Fox Hill Drive
Vernon, CT 06066

Labor and Public Employees Committee
Room 3800, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106
860-240-0540

Re: 3/13/12 Agenda 2. S.B. No. 352 RAISED) AN ACT CREATING A PROCESS FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS TO COLLECTIVELY BARGAIN WITH THE STATE. 2:30 PM in Room 1B of the LOB

I am AGAINST of An Act Creating A Process For Family Child Care Providers to Collectively Bargain With the State.

To: CO-Chairman The Hon. Edith Prague, Co-Chair, The Hon. Zeke Zalaski, Vice-Chair, The Hon. Edwin Gomes, Vice-Chair, The Hon. Ezequiel Santiago, Ranking Member, The Hon. Anthony Guglielmo, Ranking Member, The Hon. John Rigby, Member The Hon. Bill Aman, Member, The Hon. Lou Esposito, Member, The Hon. Ernest Hewett, Member, The Hon. David Kiner, The Member, Craig Miner

I have been a home day care provider for 23 years. I have incorporated into the contract I have with my parents sick days, vacation time and personal time for myself. While I rarely use this time, it is available to me. I set my own rates and rules which work best for me in my own home. I am self-employed. I see no reason to join a union. There is absolutely NOTHING they are going to do for me except charge me dues. The union will not represent me in a dispute, they will not help me collect money owed me, they will not be offering me insurance or any other benefits.

There are over 4,000 licensed day care providers in the state of Connecticut. Why weren't all of these providers sent a ballot and given the chance to vote on whether or not they want to join a union? I even know providers who are currently participating in The Care For Kids Program, who were not sent a ballot. How can this not be against my constitutional rights? How can it be legal to FORCE me to join a union that I do not want or need? How can it be legal to not only FORCE me to join but then charge me a fee? I no longer even have a family enrolled in my daycare who participates in the Care For Kids Program.

Please help all of us who do NOT want to join the Union to have this Executive Order repealed. Thank you for working so hard on this matter.

Sincerely,

Joanne B. Gagnon