

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

My name is Bonnie Forlastro and I am a family child care provider in Danbury, and I am writing today in support of S.B. 352. I have been in this business for 17 years because I love my profession. I am an educator, a mother, and a friend to the children who are in my home. I take care of all children, with and without Care 4 Kids. I think all children should be given the right to succeed in life and I know it's my job to speak for these children. I am the one responsible for the well being of the children in my care. If I see a particular child thriving in any area, I let them shine. If I see that a child struggles in reading, talking or walking, I make sure that I take the extra precautions to insure the child does not get left behind.

I also make sure that my parents and I have great communication, where we are both watching out for the well being of their child. As a provider that works with C4K, I am very happy that all the providers that work with C4K are coming together as a strong collective bargaining unit. By forming our union, providers with C4K can work together to provide a better future for the children. They are the future. Family child care providers need to work together to help each other out, and to watch each other's backs. Being part of a strong union can help us solve situations that are out of our control: late payments, low payments, once a month payments, and very weak communication. I want to see my profession grow, and open more doors for myself and my fellow co-workers. I hope that my state legislators stand up and support us in passing our Bill, SB 352.

Bonnie Forlastro,
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