

221 Walkley Dr.
Southington, CT 06489
March 9, 2012

Labor and Public Employees Committee
Room 3800, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

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

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 believe what Governor Malloy has done is illegal under the labor laws and unconstitutional regarding Executive Order No. 9.

I have been a Home Daycare Provider for 25 years, obtaining my license January, 1987. I am self employed. I am a successful business owner. I **do not** need the Governor, the State, or any Union interfering with my business! My understanding of collective bargaining is that there is an employer/employee relationship. If the State is now going to be my employer then I should be entitled to all the same benefits that other state employees receive, same medical, same pension, same retirement plan. Can you imagine the reaction to the media that the Governor has hired over 6,000 new employees? Well, they are not offering us this. After our meeting with SEIU it was obvious they have nothing to offer. But they readily admitted that they are going to force us to pay member dues or non-member fees. I don't feel Governor Malloy has the right to force anyone into a union.

Where benefits are concerned: When I became a Provider I left a State job with great benefits. I knew when I started this business I would not have benefits. That is what happens when you are self employed. If I wanted these things I would have stayed working for the State.

As a Home Daycare Provider I should have had the right to vote. I was not afforded this opportunity. It is said that this will only affect Providers who are involved with Care4Kids, so they are the only ones who need to have a say. How can this be when at any time any provider may have a Care4Kids child? The way our business works is that children come into our home, some for only short periods of time, some for up to 12 years. When we interview a new family they may be a Care4Kids client. If we accept that family into our program we are now involved with Care4Kids. Children leave because of many different reasons, including moving, job changes, schooling, just to name a few. We never know when or if we will have a Care4Kids child with us. So how can you tell me that I don't have a voice in this? The next family I take into to my program may be Care4Kids. **I will now have to join a union that I had no say in. How is this fair?**

The parent applies for the Care4Kids subsidy, not the Provider. The only reason the check comes directly to the provider is because years ago the check went to the parents and some parents would cash it and not pay the Provider. Changes were made and the check is now sent to the Provider.

This does not make us an employee of anyone.

I am asking you; **PLEASE DO NOT SUPPORT THIS BILL!** Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely



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