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Honorable Members of the Education Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I am writing in support of HB 6359 - An Act Concerning an Early Childhood System. For more than 60 years I have had the best interests of children and their families at heart and in action, as a child, parent, teacher and advocate. With the research on brain development telling us this is such a critical time for children's development and telling us that there is such a great return on investing in children and their families during this period, an early childhood system in the Office of Early Childhood will finally be able address needs and resources confronting this population.

By combining five different agencies into one with a focus on children from prenatal to age five, these children and families will not fall through the cracks while the agencies' attention has been focused elsewhere. More informed policy decisions will be made; less duplication, fragmentation and confusion will be in evidence.

This plan is the result of an extensive study and outreach by the Early Childhood Planning Team, led by Myra Jones-Taylor, to many who are concerned about all of Connecticut's youngest citizens developing to their maximum potential in the context of their families, with the policies and resources necessary.

One of the early definitions I learned of communication is that WHAT IS IN MY HEAD IS IN YOUR HEAD. So my head is thinking PASS HB6359. I hope that is in your head as well.

This is a win for everyone. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Judith G. Goldfarb