Testimony on HB 5044

Office of Early Childhood Budget

Senator Bye, Representative Walker, and Member of the Committee:

My name is Sharon Fusco. I am a teacher at Sleeping Giant Day Care, a state funded center, in Hamden, CT.

I believe the state funded programs need to continue to be funded.

If Sleeping Giant Day Care did not get funded and had to close, I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. It is hard enough to survive on the small amount I get paid every week.

Sleeping Giant Day Care and other state funded child day care centers (CDC) are high quality NAEYC accredited programs. We have to have either a bachelor or associate degree by 2020. We have a low child to staff ratio (5:1 and 7:1) in order to help the children in our program. We have a rigorous curriculum to make sure our children are ready for kindergarten when they leave us.

We work for very little compared to public school teachers and we have the same degrees. I feel these young children are our future. I chose to work here for the love I have for children, not for the money. But the money would help a lot.

Please be sure to keep the state funded child day care center funding intact.

Sincerely,

Sharon Fusco

Testimony on HB 5044

Office of Early Childhood Budget

Senator Bye, Representative Walker, and Member of the Committee:

My name is Sara E. Contreras I am a teacher at Sleeping Giant Day Care, a state funded center, in Hamden, CT.

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Office of Early Childhood Budget

Senator Bye, Representative Walker, and Member of the Committee:

My name is Maria B. Bonilla I am a teacher at Sleeping Giant Day Care, a state funded center, in Hamden, CT.

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Office of Early Childhood Budget

Senator Bye, Representative Walker, and Member of the Committee:

My name is Sonia Barnett. I am a teacher at Sleeping Giant Day Care, a state funded center, in Hamden, CT.

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Office of Early Childhood Budget

Senator Bye, Representative Walker, and Member of the Committee:

My name is Mary Dingle. I am a teacher at Sleeping Giant Day Care, a state funded center, in Hamden, CT.

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