

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Tiffany Plevka. I am a parent of two preschool children at Torrington Child Care Center, a state funded center, in Torrington, CT.

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

Twenty- five years ago my brother and I came to the Torrington Child Care Center. When I had my children, I knew when they turned three that they would also go to the same pre-school. I had an excellent experience and was very happy to see that many of the teachers are still there. My twins are enrolled now and I feel very confident that they will do very well in kindergarten in the fall.

If my child's day care program did not get funded and had to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for food stamps and other state programs just to survive. It is hard enough to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week.

I send my children to this program because they are a high quality, NAEYC accredited program. I chose them because my brother and I had such a wonderful learning experience and I could afford their sliding fee scale. My children love going to TCCC and without this program they would not be ready for kindergarten.

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

Sincerely,

