Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Faith Harris. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

I send my child to this program as they are a high quality NAEYC accredited program. I chose them because they are close to my home and I could afford their sliding fee scale. My child loves going to school and without this program he will not be ready for kindergarten.

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

Sincerely,

Faith Harris

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Marissa Hodges. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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

Sincerely,

Marissa Hodges

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Katie Valle. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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Sincerely,

Katie Valle

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Laura Fluet. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

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

Sincerely,

Laura Fluet

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Jeredi Alvarez I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

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

Sincerely,

J. Alvarez

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Amber Wiggs. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

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

Sincerely,

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Nicole Burgos. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

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

Sincerely,

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Kara Gibson. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

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

Sincerely,

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Katherine Colby. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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

Sincerely,

Katherine Colby

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Janeria McClellan. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

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

Sincerely,

Janeria McClellan
Riverfront Parent

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Natalie ROSA. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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

Sincerely,

Natalie Rosa

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Chelsea Hoffen. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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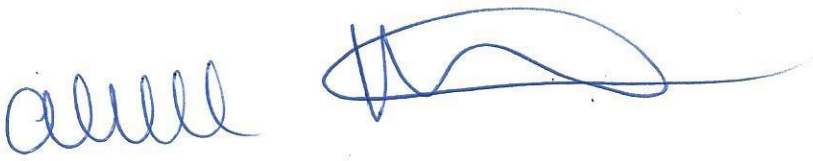
Sincerely,



Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is DIOSCA CARABALLO. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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

Sincerely,

Dioscia Caraballo L.

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Francisco Prats Jr.. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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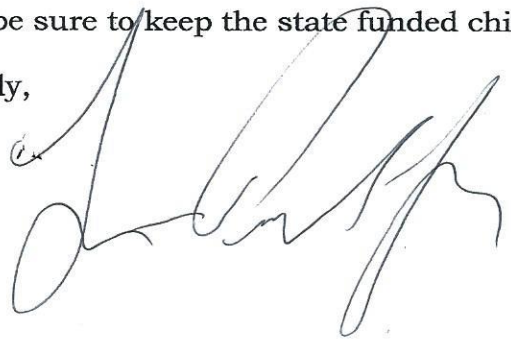
Please be sure to keep the state funded child day care center funding intact.

Sincerely,



Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is SHALON R. HENRY. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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

Sincerely,

Testimony on HB 5504

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Pamela Dugas-Vars. I am a toddler teacher at Riverfront Children's Center, a state funded center, In Groton, CT.

I believe the state funded programs need to be funded.

If Riverfront Children's Center closed and I lost my job, it would be a real tragedy to myself as well as to my husband. We barely make ends meet weekly with my salary. My husband is on disability due to a serious health conditions (kidney failure & diabetes) and can't work himself. The cost for food, doctor appointments, medicine, on top of the average monthly bills is very tight for us as it is.

Riverfront Children's Center is NAEYC accredited. The families are benefited greatly by our service to them and the education to their young children. The teachers have Associate or Bachelor degrees and we take our job seriously.

I have been in this field for over 20 years. I chose this field because of my love of children and know we are making a big difference in their lives. The money would help a lot, to continue to make a difference. Riverfront would continue to be a high quality children's center.

Please keep the state funded child day care center funding act!!

Sincerely,

Pamela Dugas-Vars

Pamela Dugas-Vars

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Danielle Smith. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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

Sincerely,

Danielle Smith

Testimony on HB 5504

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Michele Zamagni. I am a toddler teacher at Riverfront Children's Center, a state funded center, In Groton, CT. I believe the state funded programs need to continue to be funded, in order to support early learning for young children.

If Riverfront Children's Center did not get funded and the center had to close, I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for food stamps, and other state programs in order to provide for my family. I am already living in subsidized housing and it is hard enough on the small salary I make.

Riverfront Children's Center and other state funded child day care centers (CDC) are high quality NAEYC accredited programs. We either have to have either a bachelor or associate degree by 2020. In our center, we have a low child-to-staff ratio (4:1 and 7:1) in order to support the unique needs of each child, educationally and emotionally. We have a rigorous curriculum to make sure our children are ready for kindergarten, when they leave the center.

I work very hard to provide the best care and education to the children in my classroom. On the other hand, I am paid very little for my dedication, verses the public school teachers, who hold the same degree as I. Please be considerate of the staff who work and children who attend state funded child care centers. If significant budget cuts are made to state funded child care centers, it will have a negative impact on both employees and families.

Sincerely,

Michele L Zamagni

Michele L. Zamagni

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Andre Yano. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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

Sincerely,

Andre Yano

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Michelle Lee. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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

Sincerely,

Michelle Lee

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is LaTasha Maddox. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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

Sincerely,

LaTasha Maddox

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Ava Barrett. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

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Sincerely,

Ava Barrett

Testimony on HB 5004

Office of Early Childhood Budget

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

My name is Elizabeth Hawthorne. I am a parent of a child at Riverfront Children's Center, Inc, a state funded center, in Groton, CT.

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

If my child's child care program did not get funding and needed to close, I would not be able to go to work. I would lose my job and then I would have to apply for housing, food stamps and other state programs just to survive. I struggle each week to pay the small amount in tuition I pay every week any more would be unthinkable.

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Hawthorne