

**Testimony regarding: S.B. No. 937 AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDENT LOAN
FORGIVENESS PROGRAM FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS**

Submitted By:
Mary Savino

Good afternoon Sen. McCrory, Rep. Sanchez, and members of the Education Committee. My name is Mary Savino, and I live in West Hartford.

I am honored to be presenting testimony on the issue of S.B. No. 937 AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS.

This is an issue that is very important to me. I am an early childhood provider for more than 30 years. At times as a preschool teacher and single mother of 2 young children I had many struggles with paying tuition and living on a very low salary. I have my BS in early education so I did move up the 'ladder' in the childcare profession; but still struggle financially. I help many staff and parents with their struggles to pay tuition even with C4Ks.

The high cost of living in CT.

This is an issue that will impact the educational well-being and future of Connecticut's young children, and requires immediate action. The quality of childcare programs, and educated teachers to help add to the consistency of the programs.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify about S.B. No. 937 AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS. Thank you for your consideration.