

**Education Committee
March 6, 2019**

**Senate Bill 931 – Support
Senate Bill 935 – Support
Senate Bill 937 – Support**

Senator McCrory, Representative Sanchez, and members of the Education Committee:

My name is Kathleen Snow and I am a family child care provider from Hartford. I am submitting this testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 931, An Act Concerning Payments To Child Care Providers and Senate Bill No. 935, An Act Requiring The Office Of Early Childhood To Develop An Early Childhood Educator Compensation Schedule, provided both are modified to include family child care providers

I want to make sure that everything is in order for the children. If the children are in a place where they can be safe and secure, it is better for everyone. It is critical that parents have access to adequate child care. There are a lot of good programs to help parents land jobs and get training, but if you can't find a place for your kids, you're not going to be able to focus on the kind of growth that leads to better jobs. The need for safe child care is real.

I am concerned because the kinds of problems that have been happening with Care 4 Kids put the entire system in jeopardy. If child care providers can't get paid in a timely fashion, they aren't going to continue being part of this program, which will make it more difficult for parents.

I also encourage you to support, Senate Bill No. 937, An Act Concerning A Student Loan Forgiveness Program For Early Childhood Educators. Once a child is in your care, you can't just close your eyes. You have to work with these kids, and educate them. I have a degree in education and I know that you can never stop learning. This is a good bill that will help many child care providers with education loans who are struggling.

Kathleen Snow,
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