Testimony regarding: S.B. No. 931 AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENTS TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

Submitted By:
Tim Bartlett


I am honored to be presenting testimony on the issue of S.B. No. 931 AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENTS TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.

This is an issue that is very important to me. I am the Chief Operating Officer for the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA. Our association of childcare centers provides safe and affordable care to over 500 children eligible for C4K.

Since 2002 there has been only a 3% increase in C4K payment rates. There has been a 39.6% increase in inflation since 2002. Minimum wage has increased 57%, from $6.70 in 2002 to $10.10 in 2019. Infant/toddler programs are paying at the 4th percentile of market rate. Preschool programs are paying at the 7th percentile of market rate. We are already squeezed and can’t raise wages for teachers unless Care4Kids starts paying the federally recommended rate.

This is an issue that will impact the educational well-being and future of Connecticut’s young children, and requires immediate action. These children are our future, we can all agree on that. If this change happens it will also ensure that the parents of these children will have a safe and enriching place for their kids and that 100's of staff will remain employed.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify about S.B. No. 931 AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENTS TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS. Thank you for your consideration.