Good afternoon Sen. McCrory, Rep. Sanchez, and members of the Education Committee. My name is Roteesea Rogers, and I live in Bridgeport, CT.

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 an Early Childhood Educator who has worked with children for the past 8 years. I have experienced difficulty supporting mine and my families needs because of the low wages offered in this profession.

Early Childhood Professionals have the important job of supporting and assisting the development of children at such a critical stage in their lives. “The Early Childhood workforce is currently one of the lowest-paid in the country. The wages we currently receive are far too low and undeserving of the critical work we dedicate our lives to doing each and every day.

This is an issue that will impact the educational well-being and future of Connecticut’s young children, and requires immediate action. Better wages will help to improves the lives of many, educators, parents and children.

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