
I am honored to be presenting testimony on the issue of S.B. No. 935 AN ACT REQUIRING THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD TO DEVELOP AN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR COMPENSATION SCHEDULE.

This is an issue that is very important to me. I have worked as a preschool teacher for 2.5 years. I struggle to pay my bills with a preschool teacher salary.

Early childhood educators are often overlooked as professionals. We spend our days fostering young children’s social and emotional development. We plan and strategize for our students to reach their next developmental milestone and to develop skills that will help them develop into kind members of society. We work hard to make every experience in the classroom meaningful and to explore their ideas and find new ways to explore themes through curiosity. Early Childhood educators deserve higher wages because we are intentional with our teaching methods and have an in depth understanding of a young child’s development. We try different solutions for each child to help their behavior based off of our knowledge on early childhood development. Early childhood educators are professionals and should be paid accordingly.

This is an issue that will impact the educational well-being and future of Connecticut’s young children, and requires immediate action. A higher salary for early childhood educators means more people will seek out this profession. There will be more educators in the classroom who are dedicated to young children and knowledgeable about child development. This would mean students will have their needs met and there will be more support for families.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify about S.B. No. 935 AN ACT REQUIRING THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD TO DEVELOP AN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR COMPENSATION SCHEDULE. Thank you for your consideration.