

I wanted to share with you a letter in support of H.171 but I also wanted to quickly add:

- Providers need a better delivery system for quality Professional Development PD. Registered providers are required 15+ hours of PD annually. I am currently taking college courses at CCV but they do not count towards the annual PD hours because they are not specific to child care. So while college credit is great ongoing PD should also be a priority. As far as the delivery system goes, we do it ourselves. Our network leaders hold meetings and training after working at their own program. I think some funds should be dedicated to PD
- I would also want to make sure that this subsidy covers seasonal workers and teachers. As it stands now when teachers' children leave my program during summer I need some sort of payment to hold their spot or I need to fill this spot. This leads to inconsistent care for these children potentially looking for child care annually. Research shows that consistent care from birth to 5 is best. Children should be able to come to my home program from 12 weeks to age 8-12 years of age.
- I would like you to also consider providers paid time off 15 days is not a lot. Is that in line with what state workers would have for paid time off for someone working 5+ years? We all know teachers have an average of 13-15 weeks off a year. Also under the current system, I can't take a PD day for the 15 hours of PD we take annually. That would count towards a provider day off.