

Testimony of Grace vanuza Rogers

In support of

***LD 1726: An Act to Build Maine's Economy by Supporting Child Care for Working Families  
sponsored by Senate President Troy Jackson***

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, and distinguished members of the Health and Human Services Committee, my name is Grace vanuza Rogers. I am a parent and a member of MaineAEYC's Leadership in Early Childhood Advocacy Program, and I live in South Portland. I'm testifying in support of LD 1726 An Act to Build Maine's Economy by Supporting Child Care and Working Families.

I support raising child care educator wages because it's very important that workers get wages that reflect the hard work they do everyday taking care of our children.

I support Maine developing a cost model tool that better supports our understanding of what it costs to provide quality care and education because I'm on a waiting list for several day cares for my kids because of the short staff it's hard if more Monet would be offered people might consider those positions.

I support raising subsidy eligibility for Maine's lower income families because it's so critical to bring balance and the Child Care centers would not do hard choices by taking public benefits to pay for childcare.

I support Maine developing a long term plan to increase investments in child care programs while also increasing subsidy eligibility because it's a great investment to the future of the children of this nation . The choices we make now will make a difference

I support increasing Head Start eligibility and funding because it's going to give an opportunity for more centers to be open and more families would have access to childcare .

I support providing funding to pay for child care for child care employees because it's should be a right for all . As a key role for families

I support shortened time periods for determining subsidy eligibility because that will help families specially the ones that must work and can't because there is not childcare available.

Please vote in support of LD 1726,  
Grace vanuza Rogers