

Testimony of Taylor True
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 Taylor True. I am an Administrative Assistant at a child care center, and I live in Buxton. 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 will help keep staff happy and gather more qualified staff.

I support Maine developing a cost model tool that better supports our understanding of what it costs to provide quality care and education so that we can continue to foster growth in early child hood education. We are where it starts for children and their success.

I support raising subsidy eligibility for Maine's lower income families so that more families can afford the qualified care they deserve.

I support ensuring that subsidy reimbursement covers days when children are absent from their program because we do not deduct pay for private pay parents when they miss time. They pay for their spot not their time.

support Maine developing a long term plan to increase investments in child care programs while also increasing subsidy eligibility because it will allow us to grow our centers while taking in more families.

I support providing funding to pay for child care for child care employees because our employees have to work and still end up missing half their paycheck or more for care.

I support shortened time periods for determining subsidy eligibility because it allows families to be enrolled quicker and less confusion.

I support shortened time periods for child care programs receiving subsidy reimbursement because we provide the care and need to pay our staff so we should receive the money as soon as possible.

Please vote in support of LD 1726,
Taylor True