

Testimony of Ruby Goodmen  
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 Ruby Goodmen. I am a Regional Representative for Land Use Planning Commission, and I live in Greenville. 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 is underpaid for such an important/essential job.

I support raising subsidy eligibility for Maine's lower income families because higher costs warrant higher subsidies.

I support ensuring that subsidy reimbursement covers days when children are absent from their program because a daycare still has to plan and pay for those children to be there even if they aren't.

I support increasing Head Start eligibility and funding because Maine children need early education.

I support providing funding to pay for child care for child care employees because their wages pay for childcare otherwise.

I support shortened time periods for determining subsidy eligibility because too long of wait time can cause financial hardship or loss of job.

I support shortened time periods for child care programs receiving subsidy reimbursement because longer time without payment means a stressed daycare trying to make payroll and buy food for kids.

Please vote in support of LD 1726,  
Ruby Goodmen