## Testimony of Vickie Hawkes 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 Vickie Hawkes. I am a childcare teacher, and I live in Bath. 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 I have been in this field since 1992 and the wages we get are a joke due to the long hours we do and all the things we buy out of pocket. No good benefits. In field lack of respect from families.

I support raising subsidy eligibility for Maine's lower income families because I dont think there enough help out there for families to pay for childcare.

Please vote in support of LD 1726, Vickie Hawkes