

Testimony of Alicia Grindle
In support of
***LD 2199: An Act to Ensure Subsidy Reimbursements and Emergency Financial Assistance for
Certain Child Care Providers
sponsored by Senate President Troy Jackson***

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, and distinguished members of the Health and Human Services Committee, my name is Alicia Grindle. I am a Director of School Age Programming, and I live in Ellsworth. I'm testifying in support of LD 2199: An Act to Ensure Subsidy Reimbursements and Emergency Financial Assistance for Certain Child Care Providers.

Enrollment numbers help Child Care businesses know how many staff to hire and have on the schedule each day/week. Staff helps maintain the State of Maine Child Care ratios. Enrollment numbers are typically higher than attendance numbers. Families have a variety of situations that come up without notice that make it so their child is absent from care. Enrollment based subsidy reimbursement helps the Child Care industry start and maintain their operation and not be fearful of a collapse.

Without the availability of funds to use in emergencies or financial hardships it can untimely cause more problems than what you started with. Having emergency funding available to Child Care businesses can mean keeping the doors open, paying staff what they have worked, or fixing broken/damaged items. No matter how much you plan for emergencies you never know the full extent until it happens. Children need a safe place to go and the ability to have emergency funding readily available means we can provide children with what they need.

Please vote in support of LD 2199.