

Nina Candelmo  
Westbrook  
LD 210

Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and distinguished members of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and Health and Human Services Committee, my name is Nina Candelmo. I am a preschool special educator and live in Westbrook.

I am opposed to the proposed \$15 million annual/\$30 million biennial cuts to the Child Care Wage Supplement Program. As a teacher, who doesn't get paid enough as is, I am deeply concerned about the proposed cut to the Child Care Wage Supplement Program. This would affect teachers and I significantly. You will see teachers leave their jobs left and right if we lose this.

I am opposed to the proposed \$3.6 million annual/\$7.2 million biennial cuts to general funds for Head Start. This cut will threaten the quality of care of our children who need these recourses.

I am opposed to the proposed \$2.5 million annually/\$5 million biennial cuts and elimination of the Child Care Employment Award. Teachers benefit greatly from the Child Care Employment Award. If this gets cut how do you expect teachers to be able to stay in their line of work if they can't find affordable childcare. Again, we will see teachers leave left and right.