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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 Jessica George. I am a Lead Infant/Toddler Teacher and live in Canaan.

I am opposed to the proposed \$15 million annual/\$30 million biennial cuts to the Child Care Wage Supplement Program. A reduction in this supplement would significantly impact my already extremely tight budget. If this happens I would be forced to pick up a second job in order to make ends meet, something I definitely do not want to do at the age of 53. I am a single person and in this economy it would definitely be detrimental to me as I can not live off of my hourly wage alone.

I am opposed to the proposed \$3.6 million annual/\$7.2 million biennial cuts to general funds for Head Start. This cut could impact me directly if there are cuts to the program I work for. Unemployment is not a good time and not enough money to sustain my basic needs.

I am opposed to the proposed \$2.5 million annually/\$5 million biennial cuts and elimination of the Child Care Employment Award. I do not participate in this program but understand why others do and if cut I'm sure it will definitely affect those utilizing it. It sounds like a great program and if I had young children, I would probably utilize that myself as childcare is so expensive, especially in comparison to what we earn as Early Childhood Educators.