

Brian Roach
Gray
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 Brian Roach. I am a Quality Engineering Manager and live in Gray.

I am opposed to the proposed \$15 million annual/\$30 million biennial cuts to the Child Care Wage Supplement Program. This would impact the operating budget of the care facility that my child currently attends. Our educators, who play a crucial role in shaping the future of Maine's children, deserve support, not cuts. These reductions would only increase the challenges families face in accessing affordable, high-quality care.

I am opposed to the proposed \$2.5 million annually/\$5 million biennial cuts and elimination of the Child Care Employment Award. This would impact the childcare teachers at my child's daycare facility, as many of them currently have their child also in the same daycare. That would impact their retention as childcare teachers, and the ability to attract new talent to the facility. The long term impact is potentially closing classrooms to parents who need their children to be in daycare.