

Lauren Rice
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LD 2114

I am writing in support and also concern of the LD 2114 proposal. My son is 15 months old and is enrolled at Little Learners Childcare in South Thomaston. We love our school and most importantly feel at ease knowing he is safe in their care. I understand the proposal to increase access to childcare in Maine, an already huge barrier, however I hope efforts can be made to ensure our smaller, private child care centers can also be supported by the proposed LD 2114. Little Learners abides by the same guidelines and held to the same standards public schools are required to for Pre-K. Our community is incredibly lucky to have them as an option as many public Pre-K options are limited and not plentiful for the amount of children in our communities. Our existing child care centers and their employees deserve to feel supported by our state. Our wonderful state of Maine prides itself in being one that supports local and small businesses. Let's continue to include our local child care centers as their privately-owned businesses not only provide jobs, but also provide a safe, reliable, and trusted place for us parents to send our children to learn and grow. I truly hope my testimony is only one of many that can support our privately-owned child care centers being included in the LD 2114 proposal. Thank you for considering our children and the small business owners who take care of them.