

LD 1726
**“An Act to Build Maine’s Economy by Supporting Child Care for
Working Families”**
Health & Human Services Committee
Testimony of:
Rajel Hippler

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, and distinguished members of the Health and Human Services Committee, my name is Rajel Hippler. I am both a mom and childcare teacher and I'm here today testifying in support of LD 1726 An Act to Build Maine’s Economy by Supporting Child Care and Working Families.

Like me, many of the people here are just trying to make ends meet at this point. We want our kids to have everything they want. But we need to make sure they have everything they need. I make \$14 an hour as a childcare teacher and I am only able to work 24 hours a week. Daycare for my infant is \$55 a day. Let alone the additional \$20 a day for any aftercare I may need for my Kindergartener. While we have two incomes, our other income doesn't account for childcare and that math doesn't add up to survival. We deserve better. My children deserve to live a solid life. We deserve to not struggle. PLEASE vote in favor of LD1726.