

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## Testimony of Rep. Flavia DeBrito in support of LD 1955, An Act to Increase Child Care Affordability and Early Childhood Educator Stability

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

Good morning, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. My name is Flavia DeBrito, and I represent House District 64. I am testifying in support of LD 1955, An Act to Increase Child Care Affordability and Early Childhood Educator Stability, which I was happy to co-sponsor because of the workforce impacts that a strong child care industry has on our economy and what dependable high-quality child care means to each family who has access to it.

We are elected to serve our areas, and when there is a bill before us that child care advocates and parents believe will help support more families who depend on child care while supporting a strong workforce, I think we must strongly consider how to make it work.

In my district, we are lucky to have strong child care options for working families. I believe the Salary Supplement—which I support renaming for the dignity of the providers, at their request—and the Child Care Affordability Program have been lifelines for the providers and the families they serve. LD 1955 is good policy, and I urge you to support his bill.

Thank you and I welcome questions from the committee.