



Providing help and  
creating hope in Maine

5/10/2021

**Most Rev. Robert P.  
Deeley, J.C.D.**  
*President*

Dear members of the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic  
Advancement and Business,

**Rachel Grivois, CPA**  
*Chair*

On behalf of Catholic Charities Maine, and our two large childcare centers that we  
have run for nearly 50 years, I want to commend and show our support for the  
extremely well written bill:

**Stephen P. Letourneau**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

**LD 1652, An Act To Build a Child Care System by Recruiting and Retaining  
Maine's Early Childhood Educators Workforce**

307 Congress Street  
P O Box 10660  
Portland ME 04104-6060

Clearly, Speaker Fecteau, President Jackson, and all the sponsors of the bill have  
done some excellent research and understand the enormous pressures on the  
childcare industry and that it has been in crisis in Maine for many years.

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This bill, with the six main components truly make not just an attempt toward  
recruiting and retaining childcare staff but has some excellent action items that may  
just well save the childcare industry in Maine. I do not say this lightly, as the  
industry continues to lose providers and the providers that still exist continue to lose  
great staff. Additionally, each child care program struggles financially and most  
monthly financial deficits continue to destroy and eliminate good centers.

[www.ccmaine.org](http://www.ccmaine.org)

We urge you to quickly vote unanimously on this bill, so that the full legislature may  
see the coordinated strength in your vote toward final approval.

Thank you for your time and effort towards saving childcare in Maine!

Sincerely and Earnestly,

Dean Lachance, MPS  
Chief Programs Officer  
Catholic Charities Maine  
307 Congress St.  
Portland ME 04104

