

1. Name:

Carmen Lucía Bradley

2. Email:

3. Town *

Beacon Falls Ct

4. I am a: *

Please select at most 2

☐ Parent

☒ Childcare Provider

☐ Early Childhood Educator

☐ Community Organization

☐ Employer

☐ Advocate

☐ Other

5. Type or paste your Testimony here: *

Testimony as a Childcare Provider

Greetings to all concerned,

As a Childcare Provider with 16 years of service to families and children in Connecticut, I would like to share my experience and concerns.

Since the pandemic, my business has been deeply affected, and I have not been able to recover. I have noticed that parents no longer seek care for infants as young as two months, and the rise of remote work has closed another door for daycare providers. I understand that with the high cost of living, families are trying to save as much as possible. Many professional couples with two children face heavy financial burdens—mortgages, car loans, utilities, credit card debt, and the daily expenses of raising children. These families often do not qualify for assistance.

As a result, I have sometimes cared for only one or two children. However, I often lose them because parents want their children to socialize and be with larger groups. This makes it very difficult for me to remain competitive in the market.

I love my profession and dedicate myself fully to the care and education of children with professionalism and a high level of commitment. Yet, these challenges have affected me financially and, due to my age, they also impact my retirement. Without steady income, I am not contributing enough to my Social Security, which makes me worry about my future.

I respectfully ask that my testimony be considered as part of the broader conversation about the needs of childcare providers in Connecticut.

Sincerely,
Carmen Lucía Bradley.
DCFH 55031