

1. Name:

Ruben Mallma Medina

2. Email:

3. Town \*

New Haven

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. To: Early Childhood Education Endowment Advisory Board.

My name is Ruben Mallma Medina, and I have been working in childcare for approximately 24 years in the Fair Haven neighborhood, one of the poorest areas in New Haven County. I thank the Governor and the members of the Legislature for the wise decision to allocate a special budget for childcare. It is an excellent investment they are making in the future of children and the well-being of working families. In all these years of sacrifice, like all or most Home Childcare Providers, I have come to the conclusion that Family Childcare Homes are not being properly considered when it comes to obtaining benefits that help us maintain our businesses. Based on the principle of fairness, we want the money to be distributed equitably among all (Childcare Centers, Home Childcare Groups, and Family Childcare Homes). In the past, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, Family Care Homes have received little to no support compared to Child Care Centers. We were even denied PPP loans through complicated procedures or simply ignored by all the agencies responsible for distributing them. Furthermore, when it comes to childcare relief funds, Home Child Care Providers are not even considered for access to information, much less for providing input on decision-making.

I hope that this time a fairer approach will be taken and that the requirements and documentation will be simpler and more accessible for Home Child Care Providers. Thank you

Ruben Mallma Medina  
Childcare Provider  
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