

From: Leah Maupin
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Corvallis, OR 97330

March 4, 2017

To: Oregon State Legislators -Salem Oregon

Re: Approval of SB470

To my State Representatives;

I want to state my full support for SB470. As a working Mom, I know this is an important issue to young mothers. If you support women in the workforce, and believe children are the foundation of our future, then you should support SB470.

Readily available day-care is vital to our communities statewide, and especially in areas of growth. All our state's communities have residential areas, and many or most have families with young children, and working mothers, in need of day-care facilities. This need affects all Oregonians, crossing all social and ethnic barriers. It makes good sense encouraging development of daycare options within our communities where the need is greatest and thus making access to them easy and close.

SB470 is designed to do just that. It allows someone in a residential community with an entrepreneur's spirit to start a state certified day-care in their home. Without SB470, that same entrepreneur is likely to face enough legal hurdles to deter their efforts, especially if they cannot capitalize on their largest investment (their own home). The capital required to rent or purchase a facility outside their home and in a different location increases the cost or risk beyond what is feasible for many. I believe we want to encourage the option of home-based daycare. Yet sadly, we sometimes restrict this option with well-intentioned ordinances, or a local Home Owner's Association (HOA) agreement, that inadvertently precludes the establishment of a home-based daycare.

Some might argue that SB470 creates inequity in a sub-division that has a community center or park, or pool which would be governed by an HOA. But the same HOA can address any inequity if they would so choose in a logical manner that best fits that community. Others might argue that SB470 could conceivably create some theoretical situation that is somehow detrimental to these same communities. But, SB470 retains the necessary checks and balances to prevent and correct any abuses the intent of the law. The day care providers must be state approved, and this retains the necessary oversight. Some are concerned that a local community daycare would adversely affect property values, but most would find local state-approved daycare a very attractive feature, potentially raising property values.

You can easily acknowledge that day-care centers are a critical part of the modern family dynamics of many couples, and that as Oregon grows, the need will grow. SB470 creates the chance for the need to grow with our growing communities, and I urge your support for this measure.

Sincerely,
Leah Maupin – Corvallis, Oregon