

Dear Senator Gelser -

I am writing this letter to you in support of Senate Bill 470. High quality child care is an important issue requiring careful attention by Oregon's legislators. It is a state wide issue and we need state wide oversight and consistency to ensure consistent expectations for care as people move around the state. My children are grown, however I am concerned when I am caring for my grandchildren and I'm in need of local child care, I can have confidence that I can find the quality of care I need.

There is a growing demand for child care in Oregon - especially for parents with special needs children. With state wide oversight, in home child care provides important incremental capacity and a resource for parents who need child care close to their home or place of work. Today there is inconsistent state language defining a residence and the protection of legal private activities within the residence. Some have expressed concern that in home child care creates problems for neighborhoods in terms of traffic, congestion, etc. I've not seen any evidence of this occurring in at least 3 areas I've lived in Oregon over the past 30 years. Some neighborhood oversight organizations, such as HOAs, appear to be acting with personal bias vs. having informed perspectives based on facts in order to act in the best interest of the welfare of the community.

Passing Senate Bill 470 will provide these benefits to the citizens and State of Oregon:

- Protects the rights of citizens to act legally within the privacy of their own home
 - Enables deployment of the SPARK/QRIS program (a program ensuring quality care in all child care facilities)
 - Expands the reach of Oregon's early childhood development programs including children with special needs
 - Improves Oregon economy by creating jobs in child care homes, as well as enabling parents to return to work
 - Fosters and supports women owned businesses (many child care homes are run by women)

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue and for working on behalf of your constituents to create well crafted and consistent oversight for this community need.

Sincerely,

David C. Snider