

April 21, 2021

To: Joint Committee on Ways & Means
From: Rebecca Bloom, Portland
Re: Funding child care

Dear Tri-Chairs Johnson, Steiner Hayward, and Rayfield and Members of the Committee:

I am a working single mom with a special needs 7 year old and even before covid but especially now with covid, it's been grueling trying to navigate. I am in OHP and even before the pandemic I was unable to get child care because I'm a self employed mother, which seems entirely unfair, as it should be rewarded to get it together to start and then run one's own business. Nonetheless, during covid, trying to homeschool and work and do everything has been so hard and horrible and painful that I'm not sure me and my child are going to fully recuperate from how nightmarish this has been. I can't afford child care at all so I have to leave my kid alone in front of a screen to see clients or hand her off to a willing friend or family member which is very sparse. Please support and fund HB 3073 and ERDC program to help reform our child care system in Oregon.

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