

April 22, 2021

Members of the Ways & Means Committee,

My name is Rosa Sotelo, I am a farmworker in District 5. I wanted to write to you to express my support on funding for Childcare purposes. I have 4 kids, and working as a farmworker, I have struggled to find care for my kids especially when they were younger. Oregon needs funding that would help individuals like me have access to childcare resources without putting a burden on the families.

We need funding to pass a childcare bill that makes care accessible for farmworkers, and families who cannot afford childcare at the moment. The pandemic has brought the childcare issue to light even more. If I was paying for childcare right now, I would have to decide between losing my home or paying outrageous prices. Not to mention Oregon doesn't have enough facilities to be able to help our families.

It is very important that you all make the funding for childcare a priority and help families like mine that do not necessarily have access to childcare. I wish I could stay with my kids at home, however I cannot afford to and I would like for other families to have this opportunity and access culture based childcare as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.