

February 15th, 2021

To: The House Early Childhood Committee

From: Ariana Brooks

Re: Support of HB 2503 and HB 3073

Dear Chair Karin Power and Vice-Chairs Lisa Renyolds & Jack Zika,

My name is Ariana Brooks and I live in Keizer, OR. I had to leave my job in 2017 after my 2nd child was born because my paycheck would not cover the cost of having them in childcare.

When my oldest reached preschool age in 2018 I was hoping to put my youngest in daycare and work part time, but we did not qualify for free preschool. So, I've been stuck at home with both kids not able to work due to the lack of affordable childcare options. We are a hard-working middle income family that did not qualify for assistance of any type which forced us to give up income due to not having affordable childcare options. Now that my youngest will be starting Kindergarten in 2021, I hope to be able to go back to work and gain income that my family desperately needs to get ahead in life!

Sincerely,
Ariana Brooks