Chair and members of this committee, my name is Guillermina Garcia and I live in Multnomah county. I am affiliated with the Oregon Food Bank. I am addressing you to request your support with HB 2503 Childcare.

Child care is a service of great support to our community because:

- 1. Many parents could use the money they spend paying child care to pay a class fee to achieve their professional goals. For example, they can pay the fee to take an English class which would support their efforts on getting a job. A job where they could have an opportunity of professional growth and benefits. Children would have a relative-role pursuing higher education!
- 2. Families would benefit with child care services because they could use the money they spend in paying for childcare to cover expenses such as gasoline and they could buy healthy foods, and fresh fruits and vegetables. Parents could also participate more in civic engagement activities where, as a community, we look for solutions to improve everyone's lives

Thank you so much for your attention and consideration to HB 2503.

