Submitter:Martha LopezOn Behalf Of:Committee:House Committee On Early ChildhoodMeasure:HB4005February 2, 2022

To: House Committee on Early Childhood From: Lopez, Martha, Woodburn Oregon Re: Child Care and HB 4005 Email: Martaperez0222@gmail.com

Chair Power, Vice Chairs Reynolds and Zika, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 4005. My name is Martha Lopez, I live in Woodburn and I am a parent of 3 minor children /and I have been a child care provider for 12 years.

I'm writing to support HB 4005 because I know that access to child care is necessary for joyful children, thriving families, and a strong economy. The pandemic has made clear that without care work, no other work can happen.

Other barriers that parents and providers face to accessing child care is that there are not enough spaces created for childcare. Here in Woodburn I know of only 1 safe space and it is not enough for all the parents who live in this city. It is time for the government to step in and provide access to all the parents who might need it.

Parents need the peace of mind that their providers have enough funding and resources to be safe, and providers need a clear plan and to be properly compensated. I urge you to pass HB 4005 to take a small step in securing the funding our child care system needs.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Martha Lopez