

Submitter: Elizabeth Vazquez Mendoza
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood
Measure: HB4005

~~~ Originally in Spanish ~~~~

February 2, 2022

To: The House Early Childhood Committee  
From: Elizabeth Vazquez Mendoza  
Re: Support of HB 4005

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

My name is Elizabeth Vazquez Mendoza, I have a 6-year-old son. Since my son was 2 and a half months old, I had the opportunity to work in a child care center. During that time, I was able to see and experience first hand that there were few people who could pay for their children's care by themselves, and that only people like nurses, or teachers could take their children to a child care center where they would be in an appropriate environment so that they could learn and be taken care of at the same time. In addition, as a teacher at the center I was also able to realize that when my salary was better it was when the center worked with government-funded programs. Because otherwise, nurseries face great economic challenges to meet their expenses, and staff salaries.

Recently, I was faced with a reality that many mothers face: I couldn't find childcare close enough to my job that would allow me to continue my work. So I had to leave my job due to the lack of access to quality child care where my son could stay while I did my workday.

I needed to work full time and feel safe knowing that my son was in a safe place where he would learn.

I highly value my family and the well-being of my family members. Access to quality care would allow me to work and have peace of mind knowing that my child is in a safe place.

Boys and girls club is a good option for children to stay in a safe and appropriate place to be while parents leave work, but unfortunately there are not many spaces like these that help parents go to work knowing that our children are well cared for when the children are not in school. There really is a great need for accessible and safe child care centers or places for children to be while their parents work.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Vazquez Mendoza