

Submitter: Angelica Ramirez  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure: SB5506

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Angelica Ramirez. I am currently a Head start employee and Head start parent. I would just like to start off by saying without these grants that we receive none of it would be possible. Head start has helped so many in so many ways, it really has made a difference in some of the parents lives. I am a single parent with 2 daughters and let me tell you it isn't easy living off \$500 every 2 weeks, I go to school full time to which is why I only work 20 hours a week some days are harder then others but my girls push me everyday to do better and be better in life. I think that Teachers are underpaid they do so much and have a huge impact on your child's life we care for them as infants through Pre-K then we send them on their way to grade school. Something else that I think needs some attention is that we need to hire more staff, it is so hard when staff are sick and they have to close down a classroom because some families depend on that childcare and they really need it. Headstart has been supportive to me through everything that I have gone through they have given me the time when I need it or when my youngest is sick they make sure I am covered. She is 4 with epilepsy and attends victory square and my oldest daughter is 8 and she was in head start from newborn till 5 years old. I hope that this makes a difference and really helps out, Head start has been there for me and I just want to return the favor. Thank you :)

-Angelica Ramirez