

To: Ways and Means Committee

From: Dayna Davis

Date: 4/7/2025

Co-Chair Tawna D. Sanchez, Co-Chair Kate Lieber and members of the the Committee

My name is Dayna Davis and I am a Certified Home child care provider in Grants Pass, Oregon.

I'm writing to urge lawmakers to invest an additional \$500 million for the Employment Related Day Care Program in SB 5514, the Department of Early Learning and Care agency budget. Investing an additional \$500 million dollars in ERDC is crucial to stabilizing the entire child care ecosystem and is essential to addressing long-standing issues plaguing our child care system. By doing so, we can ensure that all families, regardless of income level, have access to affordable and high-quality child care options that meet our unique needs. This investment will have a ripple effect throughout our economy, supporting small businesses, creating jobs, and stimulating local economic growth.

In addition to providing child care to families and supporting our child care workforce, I support this bill because [as a child care provider, I have many parents who rely on child care to go to work/ school and depend on programs like ERDC to subsidize the cost of child care which is now more than the cost of many families rent. I, myself, lost several families due to their inability to cover the cost of child care and were put on the waitlist for ERDC. This in turn resulted in the families giving up employment or being under employed, and now living at the poverty level or worse.

I urge you to allocate an additional \$500 million dollars for the ERDC program in the Department of Early Learning and Care budget.

Thank you,

Dayna Davis

Shine On Family Child Care

Grants Pass Oregon