

I am the husband of a licensed childcare provider in Tillamook. My wife has owned Irene's Family Child Care for more than 7 years. I cannot imagine the repercussions for her and her business, and as a result my family and our livelihood, if the bill passes as it is currently written. If she were forced to keep a child with severe violent behaviors, I know other families, who have been with her for YEARS, would leave her childcare for the safety of their own children, even though almost all of her current childcare kids have been with her for 4-7 years or since birth for the younger ones. She is one person already doing an incredible amount of work to provide excellent care to the babies and children who come to our home. Its completely unreasonable to think that one person could single-handedly adequately care for numerous children at one time if even just one of them had behavior problems that were a safety concern to her, the other kids, or even that child themselves. There are so many ways this could go wrong for childcare providers and families. It will only make finding childcare even harder than it is already, and make people even less willing to become providers in the first place. If you care for childcare providers and the children in their care, you will NOT pass HB2166 as it is currently written with that amendment!