

Submitter: Hannah Silver  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood  
Measure: HB4005

February 2, 2022

To: The House Early Childhood Committee  
From: Hannah Silver, Portland  
Re: Support of HB 4005

Dear Chair Karin Power and Vice-Chairs Lisa Reynolds & Jack Zika,

My name is Hannah Silver and I live in Portland. I am not a parent, but I hope to be in the future. I am deeply invested in the status of childcare options in my community.

As a young professional, I am watching my friends begin to form families and embark on their childrearing adventures. It's harrowing to watch them panic as they realize that childcare options are few and far between. It's demoralizing to watch ambitious women step back from their careers because it simply "doesn't pencil" to both work and have a child in care outside the home. Given the volatile employment trends, my friends are working with some serious unpredictability. It is a scary time for parents. Ultimately, we all need options.

House Bill 4005 will help increase the child care supply in our state, giving us all more options. It will mean that families can rest assured that no matter what happens, they will have a safety net that ensures their children will be in safe, loving spaces, should they choose to have their children in care. It will give women freedom. It will ensure that our care providers are treated with respect and given fair compensation for the enormous efforts they put forth in shaping our next generations.

Children are, quite simply, the future of our state, and they should be our priority. That is why I strongly urge you to support HB 4005, so that our communities' children have their best shot at their future fulfillment and successes.

Sincerely,

Hannah Silver