

Submitter: Zakkiyya Ibrahim  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood  
Measure: HB4005

February 2, 2022

To: The House Early Childhood Committee  
From: Zakkiyya Ibrahim, Tigard  
Re: Childcare and HB 4005  
Email: zakkiyya@educationexplorershcc.com

Dear Chair Power and Vice-Chairs Reynolds & Zika,

My name is Zakkiyya Ibrahim and I live in Tigard, OR. I own two Certified Family home child cares programs. Prior to opening my programs I obtained a BS in Family Life and Early Childhood Development in 2006 and recently completed a MA in Special Education specializing in Applied Behavior Analysis with an Emphasis in Autism. I hold a Step 11 in the Oregon Registry and provide high quality culturally competent care to the children in my program and community. Although I have only owned my own childcare program for four and a half years in Oregon, I have more than 12 years experience working in the Early Education field from teaching in the classroom, providing in-home early intervention services, parent training, as well as, management.

I'm writing to support HB 4005 because I know that access to child care is necessary for joyful children, thriving families, and a strong economy.

I also support this bill because it supports providers and families as follows:

- Support providers and child care affordability for subsidy-eligible families by increasing subsidy rates to the 90th percentile of the 2020 child care market rate.
  - Support Oregon's child care systems development through HB 3073 Implementation with increased capacity to stand up the new Department of Early Learning and Care.
- Delay fire code requirements on in-home child care providers to prioritize building new provider capacity while still keeping kids safe.

In closing, I support this bill because it finally shows me that my education, efforts, and program matter. That our field deserves to be compensated for the true cost of providing care. That early education is just that, education not babysitting. That early education matters and that we are appreciated. And I have always said the best form of appreciation is through compensation.

Sincerely,  
Zakkiyya Ibrahim