

Submitter: Andrea Metheney
On Behalf Of: Ruth Hyde
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5514

Date: 3/5/25
SB5514 In support

My name is Ruth, and I am a new home-based child care provider who offers services on evenings, overnight, and weekends. As a resident of Oregon, I am here today to express my strong support for investing in the Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) program.

As a child care provider, I have faced significant challenges in finding families that need my services. Despite my best efforts using different marketing strategies, I have struggled to fill my spots with families who need childcare available in the night and evenings. This has resulted in a lack of income to support my family, and I often wonder what I am doing wrong.

That's why I believe that programs like ERDC are essential in helping families access quality child care like mine. ERDC helps connect families with high-quality providers, creating more economic stability for child care providers like me. By investing an additional \$500 million dollars in ERDC, we can ensure that more families have access to affordable and high-quality child care options.

ERDC also provides critical support to child care providers, helping us navigate the complex child care system and providing resources to improve our services. This investment will enable us to expand our services, better support families, and provide a safe and nurturing environment for Oregon's children.

If we invest in ERDC, I believe that my family will directly benefit from the expanded services offered by this program. Specifically, more families who work non-traditional hours will have access to quality child care, allowing me to keep my business open and thrive.

In conclusion, I urge you to invest an additional \$500 million dollars in ERDC. This funding has the potential to make a significant difference in the lives of Oregon's children and families. By investing in ERDC, we can ensure that all parents have access to the resources they need to provide their children with a strong foundation for success.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Ruth Hyde