



## Oregon moms and caregivers fighting for gender, economic, and racial justice.

March 6, 2025

Co-Chairs Sollman and Ruiz, and members of the Committee:

My name is [redacted], and I am a parent currently receiving ERDC benefits.

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 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. This is essential for working parents to be able to continue to provide for their family.

In addition to providing child care to other families and supporting our child care workforce, I support this bill because I personally am a parent who relies on child care to go to work. I am recently divorced and I depend on the ERDC program to subsidize the cost of child care which is incredibly difficult to afford as a single mother of four children.

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

Thank you,  
[redacted]  
Sweet Home