

September 10, 2020

Chairwoman Crawford and members of the family, children, and senior committee.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to provide written testify on bills 5975,5976, and 5977.

I Heather Marlett co-owner of Ms. Heathers Friends childcare are in support of these bills.

With more and more childcare facilities closing across the state, finding quality licensed childcares is becoming harder and harder for families. Personally, our childcare has 12 families on our waitlist. Adding the additional 2 for our group home childcare gives us the option to take a family of 2 or 2 families of 1. Same can be said for bill 5976. Most school systems don't offer a before/after school program. For families that have one in childcare and one in school they must worry about finding care for their school age child. This offers us more flexibility to serve our clients.

On December 10<sup>th</sup>,2019 all providers received an email stating the rules we are being updated and going into effect December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019. This gave us providers 3 days to come into compliance with the changes. This was unrealistically expected of us. Even with providers reaching out for guidance many consultants couldn't help as they also were waiting for direction and clarification themselves. 90 days is more than enough time for providers to become compliant with updated rule changes.

Heather Marlett

Co-Owner

Ms. Heathers Friends