

E-mail Received August 10, 2021

Subject: Childcare Provider/Frontline worker pay working group

Good morning,

As a 21 year child care provider this past year and a half has been the hardest as a provider. I am unable to testify in person, but wanted to testify via voice. I was and am more than happy to have been and continue to be there for my families during this strange difficult time. But each day I open my door myself and my family is at risk of being exposed whether covid or all the other viruses going around. If I am not doing daycare, I am cleaning, if not cleaning in constant communication with families on symptoms, testing and so forth. Last year especially I felt like it was a 24/7 job between providing, advising and learning about this virus. I am in constant clean mode, supply mode, and mental health mode for this little kids. I from the get go told my families that I would run business as is, to keep everyday life as normal as possible for the kids. I feel that I succeeded in that area, but spend a lot of hours running and cleaning. I had only closed once for positive covid, with myself and my family testing positive. Other than that as a group have been pretty healthy. A few covid scares, but luckily negative results. So I would really like the legislatures keep us providers in mind that we have been there, available from the get go.

Sincerely,

Amy Baldwin
Licensed Child care provider