



10134 44th Court NE St. Michael, MN 55376

April 28, 2020

Dear Chair Pinto and Members of the House Early Childhood Finance and Policy Committee,

My name is Hollee Saville and I have been a licensed family child care provider in St. Michael, for almost 15 years. I am asking for you to oppose several aspects of **HF3737** (with the proposed DE5-2 amendment), which you will be hearing in committee today. I hope you can amend the delete-all amendment to be a true reflection of federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) requirements instead of one that will certainly exacerbate the critical loss of licensed family child care providers.

I want to emphasize that all of the CCDBG requirements are **ONLY** required for those who take families on CCAP. Therefore, you do not have to implement any of these for other providers. That being said, over the last 4+ years, a few of us family child care providers have taken countless hours to read and review the federal CCDBG documents/requirements because the Department of Human Services has repeatedly claimed that XYZ are requirements when, in fact, they are not. We have even contacted the Administration for Children and Families offices Washington, D.C. and Chicago to verify that few of Minnesota's proposed changes in training requirements over the last few years are actually required by the feds. They give states great leniency in the length and frequency of trainings needed to meet the federal requirements, stating that the CCDBG language is purposefully vague so that states are not pigeonholed into very specific trainings and numerous hours of trainings. This bill *exceeds* the federal requirements.

Please strike line 1.21 since it is covered in other areas of statute and this line is preventing parents and family members from taking their own children to other areas of the home during childcare hours. If my husband wanted to take our own children to the garage to work on a project, this language would prohibit him from doing so if he had ever been used a substitute in my program.

If you feel the need to add a course for substitutes (it is not a federal requirement), please change line 11.25 to a two-hour course for substitutes because a four-hour training would be excessive, especially when most providers rarely use them. There are already limited substitute options in our state, making it very difficult for providers to attend their children's special events, volunteer at school, or make doctor's appointments when necessary. The provider already must train all substitutes and helpers on the topics that covered in this proposed course, per this statute.

The child development and behavior guidance training is not required every year by the feds, nor do they say how long the course needs to be. Therefore, you could require it every five years instead **OR**—better yet—as part of a two-hour annual refresher course that includes the required topics. Active supervision is not required by the CCDBG and the health and safety topics that are required are addressed in Health and Safety 1 and 2. Therefore, Active Supervision, should be removed as a requirement.

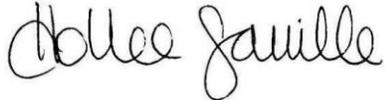
I support streamlining and reducing paperwork by allowing for the automatic renewal of family child care licenses in Section 5 of the amendment.

I also ask that you align the deadlines for two and five-year trainings with our licensing anniversary by amending HF2048 to the bill

Again, I humbly implore to amend **HF3737 DE5-2** as suggested above. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time and support of licensed family child care.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hollie Saville". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Hollee Saville
Licensed Family Child Care Provider