February 26, 2017

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Sub Committee,

My name is Jackie Harrington and I am a licensed family child care provider for 17 years in Rochester MN. I am writing to encourage you to support HF 604 to repeal the child care unionization bill.

The overwhelming numbers of family child care providers have opposed this effort as evidenced by the result of the March 2016 vote conducted by AFSCME-CCPT where a margin of over 3-1 voted against.

Even before the vote, providers consistently voiced their opposition to the legislature and the union. Family childcare providers have said no to organizers across this state for over 10 years. There is now a small window of opportunity for organizers of any union to seek another election under the current bill. This movement has stressed family child care and has been a contributing factor in the decline of providers in the field. It is time to close this chapter in the history of family childcare in Minnesota. Please support HF 604.

Thank you,

Jackie Harrington

First Five Years Family Child Care

Rochester MN