

April 30,2024

Sharon Hanson

Dear Senate Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present this written testimony. I am in strong support for **Susan Donovan's bill, H-7251, The Early Educator Compensation Stabilization Act.**

This supplement has been extremely beneficial. Most important is the increase in quality care for my students by implementing new interesting areas in my classroom by purchasing new supplies. The supplement has helped me with personal bills I usually have a difficult time paying. Eliminating some of those financial stressors makes for a much happier life. Knowing I wouldn't have to worry about those bills means I can further dedicate myself to my students. his supplement has helped my household bills tremendously. It has eliminated some financial stresses that make day-to-day life more manageable. I have been able to provide extra supplies for my classroom, increasing my student's enthusiasm and enhancement to learning. The most important aspect of the wage supplement is the fact that I would be able to continue to bring quality care to my classroom. Working with young children has been my passion and education for the past 25 years. It's my career, not just a job. Without the supplement I may be forced to seek other employment for financial reasons only. I would be devastated to leave a field I dedicated my life to but may not have any other choice without the supplement. I am extremely grateful that you let me be a part of the program.

Our child care providers are essential workers. They are being underpaid and undervalued. They deserve our investment, and it cannot wait. Please support the **Early Educator Compensation Stabilization Act.**

Sincerely,

Sharon Hanson