

The Honorable John Kline Chairman, U.S. House Education and the Workforce Committee 2181 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman,

As President of Child Care Resources Inc. (CCRI), a nonprofit child care resource and referral agency in Charlotte, North Carolina, I am writing to express my strong support of the bicameral, bipartisan Child Care and Development Block Grant Reauthorization Act.

On July 26, 2012, I testified before the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee on Children about the need to reauthorize the Child Care and Development Block Grant. My testimony focused on the need to improve children's safety in child care programs (through both requiring fingerprint background checks for child care providers and requiring minimum health and safety protections for children), increasing the quality set-aside, strengthening the child care workforce, conducting at least annual inspections of child care programs, as well as addressing shortcomings of the market rate survey in setting subsidy rates.

I am thrilled to see that the child care reauthorization bill addresses each of these areas! I have been in the child care resource and referral field for 30 years. For more than half of that time, I have been working to reauthorize this measure. Your efforts, along with those of Ranking member George Miller, Representative Todd Rokita, and David Loebsack, and your Senate counterparts – Senate HELP Committee Chairman Tom Harkin, Ranking Member Lamar Alexander, Senator Barbara Mikulski, and Senator Richard Burr, to reach a bipartisan agreement on good policy for children in child care are truly to be commended.

Working families with young children need child care, and children need a place to be safe and a setting that promotes their healthy development. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of working families.

Sincerely,

Janet Singerman

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