

Good morning. My name is Michelle Roeszler. I am currently working as a mother's helper in Fargo but previously have owned and operated a home-based childcare for 15 years. I have operated legally unlicensed, held a family license, held a group license, and held a group non-residential license. I also admin a Facebook group for people working in childcare across the state of North Dakota with just under 400 members.

I am testifying today as neutral of HB 1347. I support the philosophy of this bill and in light of the amendments no longer oppose it as I did in the House hearing. There is one additional amendment that I would propose in order to fully support this bill.

In it's current form, HB 1347 caps the limit on providing legally unlicensed care to five years after for a litany of crimes but there is not a similar cap on the limit of providing legally unlicensed care after the revocation of a childcare license following a services needed determination that is final or has been contested.

Essentially, a criminal charge which has due process in a court of law is granted a cap on this limit but a revocation or denial of application due to a services needed determination which is an administrative process is not treated at least equally.

I ask that at a minimum the situations be treated at least equally by adding a cap on the limit to provide legally unlicensed care after five years have passed. In reality, the two situations are not equal. It is possible for a services needed determination to be remediated and the subject to be deem rehabilitated. Thus I feel this needs to be addressed as an amendment in the Senate process.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony. Although I was unable to testify in person or by zoom due to a previous commitment I am available for questions by email or phone at any time.

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