



Amy's Angels Childcare LLC
512 17th St W
Williston, ND 58801
(701) 601-0222
amysangels2012@gmail.com

Sen. Michael A. Wobbema
Chairman, Workforce Development Committee
North Dakota Legislative Council
State Capitol
600 E Boulevard Ave
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear Senator,

My name is Amy Giordano and I am the owner, operator, and director of a licensed daycare center in Williston, ND. This letter is written in support of SB301 regarding the establishment of a childcare stabilization program.

I have operated licensed childcare in Williston since 2012. I operated in my home from 2012 until 2022 and then expanded and opened a daycare center in a rented space on February 1, 2022. We are currently serving 60 children and their families and maintain a waiting list of at least that many more. I and my team have cultivated a safe, nurturing, and engaging learning environment that effectively supports the diverse needs of children and families in our community, creating a foundation for children to enter school as lifelong learners and critically thinking citizens. Additionally, our team works diligently to provide a supportive environment for children who were not successful in other childcare facilities because of behavior or health challenges. At the same time, I work to provide the staff at Amy's Angels with the same supportive and loving care to foster their own growth as citizens, parents, and early education teachers.

My daycare center relied heavily on monthly stabilization grant funding in 2022. It provided higher wages and health, dental, and vision benefits to my staff as well as supported our \$4000.00 per month rent amount. Now that our grant funding has reached its maximum, we will no longer be able to fall back on that. To remain in operation, I am now faced with pay cuts, reducing the quality of our group health insurance plan, and increasing the weekly tuition rates for the students enrolled in my daycare.

In closing, a childcare stabilization program would be invaluable to North Dakota childcare providers and families alike. Monthly supplemental funding without an end date or lifetime maximum would provide for staff retention through higher wages and fringe benefits, therefore increasing the quality of care. This would also prevent those extra costs from falling back on hardworking parents in the form of higher tuition rates. So, licensed providers would have the ability to operate a high-quality, child-centered program with long-term and well-trained staff and families would be able to afford the rates to keep their children in care for as long as they need to.

I appreciate your consideration and support in this matter and I am happy to provide collaboration and insight into innovative ways to nurture early education in North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Amy J Giordano
Owner/Director
Amy's Angels Childcare LLC
512 17th St W
Williston, ND 58801
(701) 601-0222
amysangels2012@gmail.com