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Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to support the Minnesota Department of Human Services' move to a risk-based licensing system for childcare providers. The current enforcement of the plethora of licensing rules equally does not accurately portray the operation of childcare center nor how safe and secure the center is. For instance, the risk between an outlet that is not protected and a frayed carpet are nowhere near the same, yet they are treated as equal infractions. The current system confuses parents as they try to determine if the center they are leaving their children at is safe or has just a few minor infractions. A risk-based system will give greater weight to infractions that truly are health and safety issues instead of missed paperwork or missed record keeping items that have no real impact on health and safety.

In summary, a risk-based licensing rules system is fairer to providers, more transparent to parents, and can better differentiate between small things that really do not affect child safety and big things that do.

Thank you for your consideration of the important work that has been done to create a risk-based model for childcare licensing.

Sincerely, Joseph Piket

Joseph Piket

Owner

Primrose School of Champlin Park