

## **Committee on Children JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT**

**Bill No.:** HB-6839

AN ACT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN PERMITTED IN FAMILY  
CHILD CARE HOMES AND CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF FAMILY  
CHILD CARE HOMES AND GROUP CHILD CARE HOMES IN CONDOMINIUMS

**Title:** AND RENTAL UNITS.

**Vote Date:** 3/6/2025

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 2/6/2025

**File No.:** 229

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### **CO-SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Rep. Trenae McGee, 116th Dist.

Rep. Irene M. Haines, 34th Dist.

### **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Committee on Children

### **REASONS FOR BILL:**

This legislation would increase the number of children being provided care in a family childcare home from nine to twelve.

The S language intends to prevent rental agreements and condominium declarations from prohibiting or restricting licensed family childcare homes. Additionally, it allows landlords to require higher security deposits for tenants operating such homes and permits childcare operators to name their landlords as additional insured parties on their insurance policies.

This bill seeks to address the growing childcare needs of our state by increasing accommodations and opportunities for children in homes.

### **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

[Office of Early Childhood, Commissioner, Beth Bye](#) comment that increasing the number of children permitted in a family childcare facility would expand the supply of childcare across the state. Simply increasing the family childcare home capacity to 12 without consideration

for staff/child ratios would permit family childcare providers to have the same capacity as that of a group childcare home providers without the consideration for the health and safety requirements of group childcare home regulations. We cannot overlook the importance of local governance in caring for that many children in a private family home.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

[Child Care for Connecticut Director, Eva Bermudez Zimmerman](#): They are in support of this bill. She points out that the bill is not trying to circumvent existing child safety rules by existing ratios but adjusting as a pilot. Providers would still require an assistant and regular safety inspections and all other existing licensing requirements.

[CBIA Public Policy Associate, Jenna Grasso](#): They submitted testimony in support of this proposal. The bill optimizes existing capacity by addressing the child care shortage which is a challenge to parents of children ages 0-2 face when seeking to re-enter the workforce.

[United Way of Coastal and Western Connecticut Senior Director of Advocacy and Partnerships, Tida Infahsaeng](#): They offer their comments in support of the bill but point out that solving the childcare crisis cannot rest solely on family childcare providers. A thoughtful and well supported expansion will help ensure that increased capacity leads to better access without sacrificing the quality of care that children and families deserve.

[United Way, Southeast Connecticut President and CEO, Dina Sears-Graves](#): They offer their testimony in support of this legislation. She points out that the business owner will end up paying the second educator more than the revenue for those additional 3 children. Allowing them to increase the number of children from 9 to 12, assuming the Office of Early Childhood deems the space sufficient, will make a huge difference.

[All Our Kin Policy Specialist, Jade Thomas](#): They are in support of this bill but ask that certain revisions be made that they have suggested in their submitted testimony.

[Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance Executive Director, Merrill Gay](#): They are supportive of this legislation but would prefer a more limited pilot program to identify any potential issue before moving to a blanket change. Their thoughts are in line with the Office of Early Childhood which would support a more limited approach to identify any potential problems.

[The Connecticut Project Policy and Advocacy Strategist, Coralys Santana](#): Their testimony was in support of the bill, but they recommend that it be amended to create a pilot model that would allow the state to assemble information about how to set this change up so it would succeed.

CSEA, CSEA Local 2001:

[Johelis Reyes, home based family childcare provider](#)

[Cruz O'Neal, home based family childcare provider](#)

[Brigida Mendieta, home based family childcare provider](#)

[Katherine Lantigua, home based family childcare provider](#)

[Rosa Icela Santana, home based homecare provider](#)

[Angelica Cervantes, home based family childcare provider](#)

[Belkis Rodriguez, home based family childcare provider](#)

[Maria Robles, home based family childcare provider](#)  
[Maria Reyes, home based family childcare provider](#)  
[Jeanine Lewis, home based family childcare provider](#)  
[Gamila Elbashir, home based family childcare provider:](#)

support this proposal because it increases the number of children they can care for, but it also allows them to hire and assistant which will give someone in the community employment opportunity. They suggest that the rates that they earn will also have to increase so they can address the recruitment and retention issues they have.

[Rafaela Adames, childcare provider](#)  
[Rosa Almazan](#)  
[Anonymous](#)  
[Carmen Lucia Bradley, childcare provider](#)  
[Trisha Brown, childcare provider](#)  
[Dr. Sandra Carbonari, primary care pediatrician](#)  
[Mohua Choudhury, home daycare provider](#)  
[Rose Decarlo, owner](#)  
[Patrice Farquharson, EdD](#)  
[Michelle Gagliardi, childcare provider](#)  
[Geisy Garcia, teacher and childcare provider](#)  
[Kiobenit Grullon, childcare provider](#)  
[Agnieszka Kaim, childcare provider](#)  
[Tammy Maslauskas, childcare provider](#)  
[Lorena Medina, childcare provider](#)  
[Stacy Ann Muriel, childcare provider](#)  
[Lisa Newman, childcare provider](#)  
[Aleyda Paulino, childcare provider](#)  
[Robert Pettinella, childcare provider](#)  
[Karri Prandy, childcare provider](#)  
[Hiroshima Mendez de Jesus, childcare provider](#)  
[Yamilka Santana, childcare provider](#)  
[Rachel Schneider, childcare provider](#)  
[Davette Stephens, childcare provider](#)  
[Jamie Torns, childcare provider](#)  
[Audry Trinidad, childcare provider](#)  
[Shelta Wilson, childcare provider](#)  
[Carmen Lucia Bradley, childcare provider](#)  
[Julie Adonis, childcare provider](#)  
[Juan Armijos, childcare provider](#)  
[Kimberly Berrios, childcare provider](#)  
[Vicenta Ascencio Brito, childcare provider](#)  
[Marta Chiquito, childcare provider](#)  
[Claudia Conte, childcare provider](#)  
[Deborah Esposito, childcare provider](#)  
[Chelsea Johnston, childcare provider](#)  
[Katarzyna Loranger, childcare provider](#)  
[Ernestine Megee, childcare provider](#)  
[Stephanie Paredez, childcare provider](#)  
[LaToya Pierce, childcare provider](#)

[Noelya Robles, childcare provider](#)  
[Joanna Sargent, childcare provider](#)  
[Milena Sliwowski, childcare provider](#)  
[Alexis Stamos, childcare provider](#)  
[Beata Stopka, childcare provider](#)  
[Lushanna Thompson, childcare provider](#)  
[Jessica Ziolkowski, childcare provider](#)  
[Tammy Maslauskas, childcare provider](#)  
[Anonymous](#)

Supports this bill and highlights the overwhelming demand for childcare, they mention the positive impacts that would occur if they were allowed to care for more children at a time. They add this would increase quality education and give more support for parents. They urge passage of the bill.

[Jacqueline Ulloa](#)  
[Carmen Fiore, childcare provider](#)  
[Dismania Rodriguez](#)  
[Beatriz Rivera](#)  
[Madelin Puello](#)  
[Roseli Ortiz](#)  
[Yanibel Maria Guzman](#)  
[Loyda Soto](#)  
[Yamilkys Ramirez](#)  
[Raquel Palma](#)

Indicated support in submission of their testimony. However, the testimony was written in Spanish; It has not been translated.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

[Dr. Judith Ferholt](#): Her testimony is in opposition to this bill for several reasons. She states that there is no provision for assessment of additional staff regarding competence, education or experience, there is no information about the ages of the children to be added and there is no recognition that any child with a physical or developmental disability will require more attention from the teachers. She says more efforts should be put into support to educate and retain caregivers for young children.

[Angela Crowley](#): This testimony was in opposition to this proposal. It hopes that the committee will consider the broader implications of the proposed actions prior to making decisions regarding quality standards for the states 'young children and that they will commit to basing any decision on sound evidence rather than expedience.

[American Academy of Pediatrics, M.D., Sandra Carbonari](#): opposes this bill because it lowers the state's standards for child care by allowing more children per provider without requiring additional staff to have formal training in child care. They argue that while there is a shortage of daycare options, expanding capacity without ensuring quality compromises children's health and safety.

**Reported by: Richard Ferrari, Christian Talarski    Date: 3/26/2025**