

LEAD & CARE

Association of Family Child Care Professionals



Partnering with Providers, Supporting Family Child Care Businesses

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February 18, 2025

RE: [HF633](#) , Nadeau; Licensed in-home child care providers credit established, and money appropriated.

Mister Chair and Committee Members:

My name is Cyndi Cunningham. I have been a Licensed Family Child Care Provider in St. Paul for 27 years and am the current Public Policy Chairperson for Lead & Care, the 501c3 sitewide association for Licensed Child Care Providers.

I am testifying on behalf of Lead & Care in **support of HF0633**, which creates a property tax credit for Licensed Family Child Care programs and appropriates funds.

Family Child Care is critical to the care of children and support of families in Minnesota. The industry is in a crisis with the loss of programs, over recent years. This loss is felt across the state in particular greater Minnesota.

Licensed Family Child Care is an unfunded delegated program from the state of MN. The funding of the licensers, support staff and all resources for programs is funded through county taxes, not the state.

With this credit, programs will receive direct support from the state which we currently do not receive in a similar manner that the state taxes directly fund DHS with state taxes.

The state of Minnesota has provided relief and support to programs, however, unfortunately it is not working well enough to stabilize our industry. The numbers keep falling.

This property tax credit by the state providing financial support specifically to licensed family childcare providers gives tangible financial support. The credit will assist in lifting the financial burden of owning and managing these businesses which benefit the communities they live in.

It also shows programs that the state of Minnesota supports Family Child care and wants our industry to be shored up and continue.

Thank you, Rep. Nadeau, for bringing this bill forward to work to stabilize the industry by supporting licensed family child care. It's a step in a new direction.

Cyndi Cunningham

Lead & Care Public Policy Chairperson, Publicpolicy@leadandcaremn.org