
From: Susan DeLoach <susan@bbelctr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:46 PM
To: Rep. Kelly Merrick
Subject: HB 149 will have a negative effect on childcare centers

Hello.

I am the owner of Bright Beginnings Early Learning Centers. We operate four childcare centers in Anchorage and Eagle River and are licensed to serve 455 children. We currently have 75 employees.

I am very concerned about HB 149, and the negative impact that will have on the childcare industry. We work hard every day to provide the best possible wages, benefits, work environment, and encouragement to our team. Adding the unnecessary layer of a labor union would undermine the relationship we have with our team.

I have no desire to operate a union business, and if this were to come about for Bright Beginnings, I would strongly consider closing all four of our childcare centers. I do not feel that it is proper to use state money to support labor unions.

There are more effective ways that the state can support childcare centers, which have been working very hard to stay open and care for Alaska's children during this pandemic. Funding to support the childcare centers that are participating in Thread's "Learn and Grow" quality initiative program would make it financially beneficial for programs to achieve the highest level of quality. Additional funding to increase the rate of payment for families on childcare assistance would allow childcare centers to increase wages and benefits for their team.

Please consider implementing legislation that would have a positive impact on childcare centers and vote no on HB 149.

Sincerely,

Susan DeLoach

Corporate Administrator

Bright Beginnings

907-715-0091

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10