

3/2/26

Chairperson and Members of the Committee, and Representative **Phil Plummer**,

I trust my childcare provider with my child's safety, growth, and development every single day.

As a parent, that trust is not given lightly it is built over time through consistency, professionalism, and care.

House Bill 647 sends a message that childcare providers can be treated as guilty before proven innocent. That approach erodes trust, not only between providers and the state, but between families and the systems meant to support them. When good providers are pushed out of the field because they fear sudden closure or loss of funding, parents like me are left with nowhere to turn.

This bill creates harm first and asks questions later. That is unacceptable when children are involved. Children need stability, and parents need confidence that their child's care will not disappear overnight based on suspicion alone.

Representative Plummer, I urge you to reconsider House Bill 647 and work with parents and providers to strengthen accountability **without destroying trust or access to childcare**. Families and children deserve better.

Respectfully,

Janiece Brown

Parent, Pitter Patter Learning Center