

Testimony for Ohio House Finance Health & Human Services
Subcommittee

March 16, 2023

by Cassandra Barham

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

My daughter, Martha McKibben, is a single mom, 36 years old, and is presently employed. She was working previously and receiving child care vouchers until one day she was told in a letter sent to her by Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) that her increased wage amount put her over the limit to receive child care vouchers and was forced to quit her job. A job that she needed to take care of herself and her daughter. She experienced a huge amount of frustration because she was now unable to adequately care for her young daughter.

The situation just presented more problems with daily life including income insecurity.

Martha, as well as myself, wants elected officials at the Statehouse to raise the income eligibility level to receive child care vouchers. Families should be rewarded for working and earning raises and not have to worry about losing their child care assistance with pay raises.