

Kristovensky, Jude

14-542-13

From: Sheryl E <sheryleichenlaub@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 21, 2018 1:44 PM
To: PW, CC Reg Changes
Subject: Child Care Regulations at 55 Pa. Code, Chapters 3270, 3280 and 3290

#3216

Dear Legislature:

My biggest concern regarding passage of the above regulations are the increased cost to provide child care to families. Again, the legislators of Pennsylvania are going to raise the cost of providing regulated child care to families without putting funding the costs. We caregivers are left with no alternative but to pass these costs on to families.

Already a middle class family pays more for tuition for early child care than tuition to a community college or state university. Each time we must raise costs, we chase these parents to unregulated care and at times riskier and lower quality care. The Commonwealth pays for low income family's care, the wealthy can afford private, in home care (unregulated), but the huge bulk of families must choose between working, unregulated care or paying exorbitant rates for child care. Quality care must also be affordable to benefit our Commonwealth.

Realistically, overnight care is so very much unavailable ---- you will further limit those choices by forcing caregivers to change staffing or reduce their hours to 16 hours. For example, nurses and other health care workers MUST work 12 hour shifts (plus an hour each side for transfer of patients plus an hour or so commute -- oops don't be late or take extra time because your caregiver can't go past that 16 hour mark. So, is it safer to have those children stay with unregulated care or regulated AFFORDABLE care. Face it, any of you who are parents sleep when your child sleeps.

So either properly fund these changes or don't pass them. At some point, we need good enough quality care that is reasonable in keeping our children safe and in regulated care when they are not with their parents.

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