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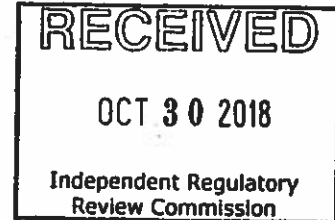
14-542-17

**Graeff, Melissa**

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**From:** Brenda Bloom <bloomearlyed@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 24, 2018 3:31 PM  
**To:** PW, CC Reg Changes  
**Subject:** Response to proposed changes of child care regulations

Bloom Early Education Centers, Inc  
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10/24/2018

In reference to proposed changes to child care regulations 3270. I have read through the changes and they all seem helpful to improve the quality of child care in Pennsylvania. My main concern as training requirements increase, we have received little increase in subsidy payments. These new regulations are very expensive, training new staff and increased ongoing trainings cost not only the cost of the training, but then the cost to cover the staff while they complete their trainings.

We only received a 2% increase in subsidy rates after 10 years, the cost of living in the United States had increased 16% over that 10 years. The demographics in Luzerne County have greatly changed during the past ten years. This has led to a greater than average increase in the cost of child care, as we have increased salaries to be competitive in the workforce.

Currently the difference between full time infant care subsidy rate and private pay rate is over \$70 a week.

We are looking forward to increasing the quality of child care in Pennsylvania, but as we adopt federal guidelines that affect the cost of child care, we should also adopt federal guidelines stating that child care providers should be paid a decent percentage of the cost of child care from subsidy.

Thank you

Brenda Bloom