



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

June 26, 2013

Governor Scott Walker
Room 115 East
State Capitol

HAND DELIVERED

Dear Governor Walker:

As you are considering the items in the 2013-15 budget you will veto, we strongly encourage you to veto several provisions that will have a detrimental effect on the thousands of small business owners who provide early childhood education services to our state's most vulnerable population. Below are the provisions we would like you to veto in full:

- Fingerprint-based background checks of child care providers participating in the Wisconsin Shares program, their employees, caregivers, or adult non-client residents and charging them a fee for the fingerprint-based background checks. Wisconsin Shares providers should not be the only child care providers subjected to this provision; everyone who is charged with caring for children should be subject to this same scrutiny;
- Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) System for W2 and Wisconsin Shares payments. Even as modified by the Joint Finance Committee this proposal leaves too many questions for those who would be required to participate. Requiring child care providers who accept Shares payments to endure further costs associated with this program or uncertainty in receiving payment for their services will likely cause more providers to drop out of the program altogether thus leaving low income parents with fewer options available to them. This provision should be vetoed until there has been a full discussion with providers and parents on what this system would look like and how it would be implemented. More work needs to be done before a change of this magnitude is even considered;
- Child Care Provider Reimbursement Rates. The new system as proposed leaves too much uncertainty for child care providers as to how their rates will be determined. Flexibility for the Department of Children and Families does not necessarily equal economic stability for the small business owners who care for low income children. Once again, this provision may cause more providers to quit serving Shares children making access to child care especially difficult in small rural communities.

We strongly believe that these provisions will not benefit the small business owners who provide child care service to our state's poorest children, the children in their care, or the parents of those children. They will only cause more uncertainty in an already fragile system.

We thank you for your consideration of this request and encourage you to do the right thing for our most vulnerable families.

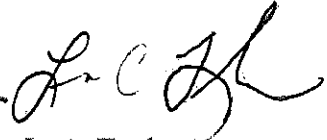
Sincerely,



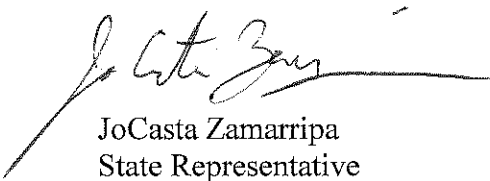
Nikiya Harris
State Senator



LaTonya Johnson
State Representative



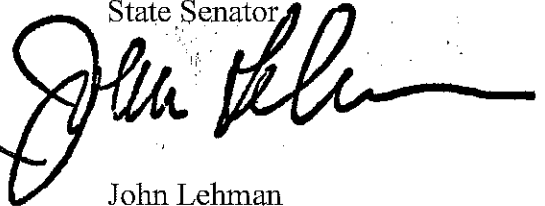
Lena Taylor
State Senator



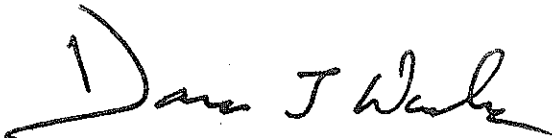
JoCasta Zamarripa
State Representative



Sandy Pasch
State Representative



John Lehman
State Senator



Dana Wachs
State Representative



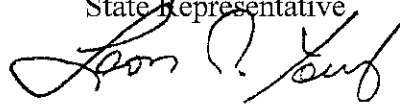
Mandela Barnes
State Representative



Evan Goyke
State Representative



Jon Erpenbach
State Senator



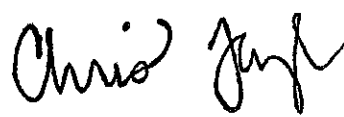
Leon Young
State Representative



Christine Sinicki
State Representative



Timothy Cullen
State Senator



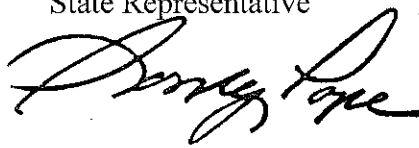
Chris Taylor
State Representative



Dianne Hesselbein
State Representative



Katrina Shankland
State Representative



Sondy Pope
State Representative



Brett Hulsey
State Representative



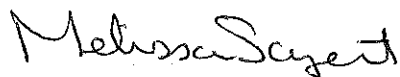
Tod Ohnstad
State Representative



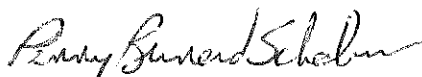
Terese Berceau
State Representative



Janet Bewley
State Representative



Melissa Sargent
State Representative



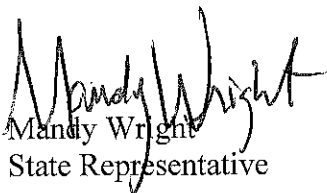
Penny Bernard Schaber
State Representative



Gordon Hintz
State Representative



Mark Miller
State Senator



Mandy Wright
State Representative