



GENERATIONS PRESCHOOL & CHILDCARE, INC.

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Date: October 17, 2023

To: State of North Carolina, NC Division of Child Development, NC Childcare Commission

Re: **PETITION TO:** Increase Capacity within a “**Center-In-A-Residence**” Childcare Facility

Throughout the entire state of North Carolina communities and families in every county are currently suffering from a lack of or shortage of much needed childcare spaces for children. This has been and is still a major problem, and it is causing devastation to the North Carolina economy as well as many working families in North Carolina. It is a known fact that without viable economies---our state’s communities and working families will be on the verge of collapse.

We would like to implore you to please consider the law additions to assist childcare providers who have been and are, striving daily to do everything in their power to provide quality childcare within the confines of the state of North Carolina, and federal laws, policies and mandates---as well as the working parents and students who are still in desperate need of the quality childcare services that our state’s childcare provides offer--not tomorrow---but now---today.

OUR DESIRED NEW LAW CREATION AND IMPLEMENTATION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

“CENTER-IN-A-RESIDENCE”

- **In efforts to Advocate for the “CENTER-IN-A-RESIDENCE” CHILDCARE Facility Providers:**
In addition to current North Carolina Maximum Enrollment Capacity Laws;

Allow North Carolina’s providers to provide childcare services for families/children as follows:

- **[Maximum Capacity of 15 children]: Ages Birth-5 years [Full-Time; Full-Day]**
- **[Maximum Capacity of 20 children]: Ages 2-5 years [Full-Time; Full-Day]**

NOTE:

- Please note that “**Centers-In-A-Residence**” have many expenses as they are required to follow the same rules as a “Big Box Center”---however, have no capacity increase of allowable enrollment of children as compared to the same classroom enrollment capacity & child/staff ratio as a “Big Box Center”.

In addition, the criteria/requirements for working in the Early Education field increase or changes seemingly on a yearly basis---following continuous mandates of the state and federal governments in the areas of education, trainings, experience, vetting, staff, sanitation, etc.

In summary, allowing providers to care for more children costs the state zero (\$0) dollars. It raises the wages of Center-In-A-Residence childcare providers, and it increases the number of childcare spaces in the state, alleviating the childcare space crisis we are currently experiencing across the state---and will only continue to face as facilities close due to low wages and low staff retention rate because of the inability to pay a living wage to employees.

Early Education professionals has earned the right to be deemed and respected as the Quintessential foundation of the start of a child’s first introduction to a formal education. We now take this opportunity to speak on the behalf of all NC Early Education professionals when we say that we are trusting you to support us as such and create new laws that will benefit everyone involved---which includes, NC Early Education faculty and staff members; families, children and the communities we serve.

Regards,
Manita Broaddus, M.Ed
Val Smith, M.Ed
Winston-Salem/Forsyth County