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| **Name/Organization** | **Topic/Comments** |
| **Catherine Lafontaine**  Caitlin’s Place  Tyngsboro, MA | To All Concerned,  As a licensed childcare in the state of Massachusetts for the past 13 years, I have an idea that I would like to bring to attention.  We all know the cost of childcare is high. It takes a lot to maintain a childcare facility either in home or center based. Facility costs, electricity, heat, employees, equipment for all ages, supplies, regular maintenances the list goes on.  The rising costs of inflation and families trying to maintain their jobs while paying for childcare and all other life’s bills it’s all just too much. Nothing is balanced. All of This leaves us with many broken homes and causes children to develop physical, psychological & emotional stressors that are carried on for years to come. Essentially our homes are crumbling.   I propose a change in that the government provides funding subsidies toward the facilities in which childcare is provided. Ie mortgage assistance or government assisted leases for facility. As well as possible Assistance with employees in childcare. This concept in turn will allow providers & centers to offer much more affordable childcare. Thereby creating less stressors for all.  My future goal is to sometime in the near future open a childcare center outside of my home. I have a high focus on education. My children in my care are at kindergarten level by age of 3. I do this all without compromising the social, emotional & physical development of each child. My hopes is to be able to provide such elite care for all walks of families.  In Massachusetts we all pay taxes and it would be beneficial for the well being of all if we allocated more money towards the building blocks of young ones lives. Something has to change, otherwise home daycares and centers will have to continue to increase their prices to even keep afloat.  Kindest Regards,  Catherine |