

Dear (Senator or Delegate) (name) : (Change this title as necessary for WVDHHR Secretary, etc.) I am writing because of the crisis that is facing child care (centers/facilities/homes) who care for young children in WV. We are now in the midst of the largest increase in minimum wage (\$1.50) over the shortest period of time (1 year) in the history of minimum wage increases. There has not been an increase in subsidy rates for low income children since 2009 (6-7 years ago when the last minimum wage increased).

(At this point, you can insert 1 — 3 bullet points from the 3rd attachment) s an example of a bullet:

In order to keep our doors open, we need an increase in subsidy rates to help absorb the increase in minimum wage. More funding is needed in childcare so that subsidy rates can be increased without allocation of existing funds by making fewer children eligible for subsidy, (forcing children into regulated care or cause parents to quit their jobs)

I am requesting that this important issue be addressed in your upcoming sessions. Thank you for everything you can do to keep our children safe in licensed and monitored child care centers/facilities/homes.

Sincerely,