January 9, 2018

The Honorable Senator Henry Stern State Capitol, Room 3070 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: The 2018 California Family Child Care Campaign

Dear Senator Stern,

My name is Nancy Wyatt and I have been a licensed family child care educator (FCCE) in the San Fernando Valley for over 30 years. I am writing to you and joining the *2018 California Family Child Care Campaign* because I want you to know that family child care is essential!

I am convinced that family child care is a wonderful way to provide the high quality early care and education that children need. Family child care allows parents to work, gives children a good start and strengthens our communities. It is vital that policymakers understand the value and importance of family child care and support the work that family child care educators are being relied upon to do.

FCCEs open their homes and hearts to serve the children in their care. They can offer a child the nearest thing to being loved and cared for by their own family members. Dedicated providers have learned how to prepare children for school and life.

FCCEs work with all ages, including school age, preschoolers and so many infants and toddlers. FCCEs are usually the best source for evening and weekend care.

Please, remember the contributions of family child care and be sure to find out, first hand, what they want and need to do their best. FCCEs must be at the table when child care policies are being developed.

Please, support family child care! Photos are enclosed.

Sincerely,

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