

The Connecticut General Assembly



For IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 6, 2019

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House, Senate Pass Family Child Care Provider Contract Resolution

HARTFORD — After months of advocacy work, legislation increasing rates for family child care providers and Care4Kids program funding has been adopted after affirmative votes in the House of Representatives and Senate in late May.

The resolutions, [HR 34](#) and [SR 34](#), establish an agreement between the state Office of Early Childhood and the Connecticut State Employees Association covering licensed and unlicensed family child care providers to authorize rate increases. It would also increase funding for the Care 4 Kids programs through the 2022 fiscal year.

“I am pleased to see this agreement move forward,” said **Deputy House Speaker Michelle Cook, D – Torrington**. “This agreement protects our youngest charges, and ensures families will have options to receive affordable, quality child care. It also increases the pay for licensed and unlicensed care providers.”

The agreement represents a compromise between the state Office of Early Childhood and child care providers who are members of the CSEA and participate in Connecticut’s Care 4 Kids program.

The contract increases a 2.5 percent wage increase annually for licensed care providers until the end of the 2021 fiscal year. Unlicensed family child care providers would see a 1.25 percent annual wage

increase until 2021. It also provides for an increase if a provider has an associate's degree, or a national accreditation.

In addition to wage increases, Connecticut's [Care 4 Kids](#) program will receive a funding increase to \$54.6 million in fiscal year 2020 and \$59.5 million in fiscal year 2021. Licensed care providers who have worked in the Care 4 Kids program for three years by July 2021 would receive a \$900 bonus.

Unlicensed providers would receive a \$450 bonus. This program serves over 18,000 children throughout the state by providing low-income families with affordable child care.

There are approximately 5,500 providers throughout the state who work in the field.

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