

**House Education**

**02/08/2024 01:30 PM**

**HB24-1009 Bilingual Child Care Licensing Resources**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

<b>Name, Position, Representing</b>	<b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>
<p>Bob Norris For themselves</p>	<p>Chairwoman and members of the education committee. My name is Bob Norris from Longmont.</p> <p>I have been doing work with the Immigrant and Hispanic community for over 20 years including being the board chair of El Comite de Longmont, and on the board of the Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition.</p> <p>I've been on the board of the Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition that is the leading organization in training, child care providers in Spanish.</p> <p>I am also part of the early childhood alliance that recognizes the extreme harm from the Shortage and accessibility of child care in Colorado.</p> <p>The inaccessibility of child care in Colorado is most prevalent for those that are in the most need who want to insure that their children have the opportunity to start kindergarten and first grade on even footing.</p> <p>This bill addresses one barrier to the creation of licensed childcare's that serve the most in the community.</p> <p>This bill eliminates on barrier to marginalized people from creating much needed childcare businesses. Not just easier to understand educational materials , forms and applications, but by focusing on</p>

	<p>prevalent languages for the segment of our community in most need of the benefits of quality childcare as discussed in the legislative declaration.</p> <p>Creating more childcare providers has the additional benefit of creating jobs for women that would like to work not only in the childcare in history, but being able to go to work because their children are in childcare.</p> <p>Do not forget that the most important thing that this bill will do is improve the lives of many children who are more likely to have less access to childcare, which has staff that can speak to them in their native language, as well as helping them in English.</p> <p>The cost of creating a bilingual licensing unit is trivial compared to the benefit to be realized by passing House. bill 24-1009</p> <p>please vote in the affirmative.</p>
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February 2024

**TO:** House Education Committee

**RE:** HB24-1009 Bilingual Child Care Licensing Resources

Dear Committee Members,

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is one of the oldest women's organizations in the country, empowering women since 1881. The mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

Today, Colorado's working parents are struggling to find childcare. At the same time many potential childcare providers who are qualified in every way, face a language barrier that keeps them from being able to provide this sorely needed service. HB24-1009 will provide important bilingual resources that will help qualified providers meet the licensing requirements and provide valuable assistance to new child care facilities to ensure their success.

AAUW believes HB1009 will not only provide the quality childcare our families deserve, but also help our economy by giving working mothers the ability to join and stay in our state's workforce.

AAUW of Colorado strongly supports House Bill 1009 and requests your YES vote in committee and throughout the process of becoming a law.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Su Ryden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Su Ryden**  
**AAUW of Colorado Public Policy Co-Director**

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*American Association of University Women--AAUW is a top-rated 501(c)3 charitable organization whose mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.*