

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Case No. 15-17 (Text Amendment – Child Development Homes)
441 4th St. NW, Suite 220
Washington, DC 20001

Statement of Support

I, Renita Simril-Hill, am writing in support of the text amendment to allow Expanded Child Development Homes for up to 12 children. My Child Development Home is in Ward 8 (eight). My business has been opened for 10 (ten) years. I currently can care for up to 5 (five) children in my program and this change will allow me to increase the amount of children I can care for.

I have a waiting list with over 25 (twenty-five) requesting parents – women and men. When I hit that limit I do not add anyone else until the list goes down. I constantly try to network with other daycares in my area, but they too are full due to our limitations

I have Parent's begging to be bumped to the top of the list. One couple went as far as to go to a fertility Doctor to ensure they got pregnant before their current child left my facility. This child has my last slot when born in February.

I currently have Parents that had their oldest child attend my facility, and their middle child is currently enrolled. Now they have a newborn that will have to attend a different facility, which means dropping off 3 (three) children in different locations. Who wants that headache with the District's traffic problems?

I feel it is important that we increase the available slots within Child Development Homes immediately. This has been a demanding NEED in the District and we seem to be the only one behind time. I also feel that a CDH should be able to hire a person that meets all guidelines, but not forced to have a CDA-Child Development Associate credentials, as long as the owner is CDA certified. The cost to pay someone with a CDA will bring a hardship on a small facility.

Please consider these changes for Child Development Homes - consider the change for the children and parents in need.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Renita Simril-Hill

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