## PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER

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House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

HARRISBURG

March 15, 1999

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CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

Mr. William H. Worrilow, Jr.

400 E. High Street

Lebanon, Pennsylvania 17042

Dear Mr. Worrilow: R. W

Thank you for contacting me about House Bill 78, the Child Care Facilities Supervision Act. Your comments are welcome, and I am pleased to respond.

House Bill 78 would require the Department of Public Welfare to conduct at least one annual unannounced inspection of child day care centers. The inspection would relate to the health and safety regulatory standards.

This bill also requires mandatory criminal background checks for unregulated caregivers. As written, this legislation requires any individual who directly provides child care services which are subsidized by federal or state funds but who is not otherwise subject to approval or licensure by the Department of Public Welfare, to submit criminal and child abuse history information to the department. In addition, every individual 18 years of age or older who resides in the home for at least 30 days in a calendar year much submit this information.

I am aware of the numerous amendments being proposed to House Bill 78. Please be assured that I understand your concerns and will certainly take into consideration those concerns when asked to vote on these amendments. The health and well being of our children is paramount.

Again, I appreciate hearing from you. If I can be of assistance in the future, please let me know.

Very Truly Yours

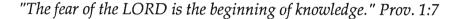
PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER 102<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District

PJZ/jm



## LEBANON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

875 Academy Drive Lebanon, PA 17042-2140 (1100 N. 8th Ave.) (717) 273-8114





March 17, 1999

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Honorable Peter J. Zug House Post Office Box 202020 Main Capitol Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Pete,

Thank you so much for responding to my telephone communication regarding House Bill 78, the Child Care Facilities Supervision Act.

As I mentioned to your secretaries, we have no quarrel with the basic bill, requiring inspection and safety. Our concern is with the Mundy amendments and the Blaum amendments.

These four amendments are a terrible threat to religious child care facilities. They would require that the Department of Public Welfare license and micro-manage the details of almost everything at religious child care ministries. Health and safety have nothing to do with it.

The proponents of these amendments assert that child care has nothing to do with education. Wrong !!!! It is a fact that children learn half of all they will ever learn about morality by age 3. Impressions are strong in these early years.

Christian parents should be at liberty to place their children in the care of Christians with high moral standards — not in the care of persons with an amoral view, not in the care of eastern mystics, not in the care of persons who know nothing about the love of Christ. Christian parents should have legitimate choices.

There are plenty of laws on the books safeguarding health and safety. I am sure that many of your colleagues have no idea that the Mundy and Blaum amendments carry serious threats to Christians. Please do all that you can to defeat these four amendments. We are glad to comply safety; we do not need a license. Thanks so much.

Robert E. Mayer 810 E Canal St. Lebanon, PA 17046

Dr. Robert E. Mayer, Founder

Affiliations: The American Association of Christian Schools
The Keystone Christian Education Association