

PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER

HARRISBURG OFFICE:
HOUSE POST OFFICE BOX 202020
MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-2686
TOLL FREE 1-800-956-4050

MYERSTOWN OFFICE:
112 WEST MAIN AVENUE
MYERSTOWN, PA 17067
PHONE: (717) 866-9144

ELIZABETHVILLE OFFICE:
27 SOUTH MARKET STREET
ELIZABETHVILLE, PA 17023
PHONE: (717) 362-9051



House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

March 15, 1999

COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
ON HOUSING
STATE GOVERNMENT
VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
MAJORITY POLICY
CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

Mr. William H. Worrilow, Jr.
400 E. High Street
Lebanon, Pennsylvania 17042

Dear Mr. Worrilow: *Bill*

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 must 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pete".

PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER
102nd Legislative District

PJZ/jm



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

LEBANON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

875 Academy Drive
Lebanon, PA 17042-2140

(1100 N. 8th Ave.)
(717) 273-8114



"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge." Prov. 1:7

March 17, 1999

MAR 19 1999

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 with health and safety; we do not need a license. Thanks so much.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert E. Mayer, Founder

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