

July 11, 2007

The Hon. Karen E. Spilka, Chair  
Senate Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities  
The State House, Rm. 511C  
Boston, MA 02133

The Hon. Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera, Chair  
House Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities  
The State House, Rm. 146  
Boston, MA 02133

**Re: S. 70, "An Act Relative to Safety in Day Care Facilities"**

Dear Chairwoman Spilka and Chairwoman Coakley-Rivera:

I write in support of S. 70, "An Act Relative to Safety in Day Care Facilities." This important legislation places stronger restrictions on the types of toys made available to children in the Commonwealth's child care facilities, and makes the absence of unsafe toys a condition of licensure. Simply put, this bill has the potential to prevent tragedy, and I urge the Committee to report it favorably.

In utilizing the services provided by day care centers or shelter facilities, parents trust that their children are provided a safe environment, free of toys that could cause them harm and cribs that do not meet minimum safety requirements. The needless suffering endured by a parent whose child chokes on a small toy, or suffocates in a defective crib, is entirely preventable. As elected officials, we have a duty to protect families through responsible, comprehensive legislation, and I believe this bill will serve Massachusetts well.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of this request. As always, should you have questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Very truly yours,

Gale D. Candaras  
State Senator