



Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce

At Beaulieu Place

"Where Business and Technology Meet"

PO Box 336 • 33 Stewart Rd. • Barre, VT 05641

Responsibly improving the climate for doing business in the Central Vermont Community.

2016 Board of Directors

Lindel James, Board Chair
Center for Leadership Skills

Leslie Sanborn, Immediate Past Chair
R&L Archery

Amy White, Vice Chair
People's United Bank

Joe Choquette, Vice Chair
Downs Rachlin Martin

Cody Patno, Vice Chair
Noyle W. Johnson Ins.

Susan Kruthers
Past Chair

Mike Donovan
Broadcast Advertising

Michael Casella
Casella Waste Management

Kim Bolduc
Bolduc Metal Recycling

Caroline Earle
Attorney at Law

Ed Larson
Larson Forestry Services

Debbie Kerin
Northfield Savings Bank

David Rubel
Community National Bank

Catherine Nelson
Times Argus

Denise Russo
Denis, Ricker & Brown

John Underwood
Inn at Montpelier

William D. Moore, President
Central VT Chamber

August 1, 2016

Ms. Charlotte Ancel
Chair

Blue Ribbon Commission on Financing High Quality Affordable Child Care
18 Iranistan Road
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear Ms. Ancel:

I am writing to express to you the concerns that the Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce has regarding the accessibility, affordability and availability of child care in Vermont.

The Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce is concerned that the recent adoption of new regulations on Family Child Care Homes (FCCH) and Family Child Care Professionals (FCCP) will have a significantly negative impact on businesses across the state.

First and foremost, we believe that the estimated cost of compliance with these regulations may force many FCCHs and FCCPs either to close or to operate in the "underground economy," in an illegal and unregulated manner.

We are also concerned that as these regulations force the closure of properly licensed facilities, employees will have a difficult time finding appropriate child care and there will be a direct, negative impact on employee morale and job performance. There will be increased absenteeism and productivity issues which will also directly affect employers across the state.

The Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce fully believes that affordable, accessible, available, and licensed child care is vital for working families and their employers. We do not believe that the new regulations will further that objective.