

Media Statement  
For immediate release  
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### **Win for Home-based Childcare and Beneficiaries.**

The New Zealand Home Education Learning Organisation (HELO) has welcomed giving beneficiaries the choice of home-based for their three and four year olds' compulsory 15 hours of ECE.

Under changes made by the Social Services Parliamentary Select Committee to the Welfare Reform Bill, beneficiaries will be able to continue to have their young children in home-based childcare and avoid having their benefits cut.

HELO President Jenny Yule, who presented to the Select Committee last year, said all parents in New Zealand deserved the right to choose childcare that best suits the needs of their children and their family.

Ms Yule said home-based childcare has always supported and worked with beneficiaries to support their family needs.

"It is reassuring to see home-based childcare gaining greater recognition as a quality model of early childhood education.

"For too long home-based childcare, which currently represents 9 per cent of the ECE sector, has been marginalised by the bigger players and childcare centres.

"Children cared for in the home can receive more consistent one-on-one responsive care, helping them to develop meaningful relationships in a family-focused community, supporting emotional growth and learning," Ms Yule said.

"Research shows the social, emotional and financial returns that home-based care and education delivers - not only for under fives, but also for society".

Ms Yule said through in-home childcare beneficiaries also have greater access to training, education and work opportunities.

"We can turn unemployment into employment, where beneficiaries who are already caring for their children at home can become in-home educators and return to work".

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