



**ILDOCC**

Illinois Directors/Owners of Child Care Centers

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## **We have an update for you.**

The governor's office and DCFS are offering to meet with ILDOCC about the teacher staffing crisis. We will meet with them as soon as possible. This comes after the governor's office stymied our attempt last week to pass legislation to deal with this crisis.

The good news is we have two great champions, Rep. Anthony Deluca and House Childcare Committee Chair Kathleen Willis, who will be in on those meetings and who are committed to working on your behalf to resolve the teacher staffing crisis. They are not giving up and we are not giving up.

The challenge, of course, is that although we got the governor's office attention, are they now going to do anything about this crisis? We are still hopeful.

In the meantime, we know the statistics. They are stark. Over 1550 centers have closed in Illinois from 2017 to 2019, according to DCFS. However, please send us your stories or comments that you feel will help us in this meeting. Statistics are not cutting it. We are all on the front lines. We are talking to people who are safely tucked in the Capitol. They need to hear our struggles.

Thank you and keep the faith! We're all in this together!

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