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Remarks:

My name is Brian Leffler. I run Instrumart. We are a 34-year old VT company, we are a very high-tech business with a national audience. We have 70 employees – we are an employee-focused company. When people ask me what my job is I tell them I take care of 70 families. I ran some numbers: in 4 hours of one day of business, we would cover a .9% payroll tax for the year. If you were to ask me to do that in order to solve this child care problem for all Vermonters across the state, I would 100% do that without hesitation. Vermonters still care about their neighbors and we have a strong sense of community. We are not going to solve this issue on an individual level. As a business person I do not view addressing the child care crisis as an expense, it is an investment. When we make this investment, it will have widespread future rewards. I think it will help children in K-12 education. I think it will help more kids go to college. I think it's going to help more people come into the workforce. Some of these parents are rockstars who are sitting on the sidelines. We don't want some families to have access to this and some not.

We need to pull together and solve this issue for everyone. We will get back more than we invest, it is time to make this investment and address the child care crisis.