

Good Afternoon Honorable Senators and Representatives. My name is Keeley Wolf and I am a graduate student at the University of Connecticut, School of Social Work. I am here today to testify on Bill number 462, An Act Concerning a Fair Share Health Care Surcharge. I must support this bill not only as a social work student, but more importantly as a citizen that is concerned with the communities in our state. I would hope that you too would support this bill, not just as lawmakers, but as human beings supporting what is right. Healthcare is very important to me, but more importantly it is important to all residents of this state who provide for their families. I cannot sit by and see my neighbors not receive a fair chance. Something must be done. I am not here to bring down large companies but rather to support their employees. This is about responsibility. Healthcare has become a basic necessity, not an option. It concerns me, as a young adult planning to live and work in Connecticut, that there is a possibility that my healthcare needs may not be met. I feel that every individual should help their neighbor, including large corporations. I plan to invest a lot into this state. I plan to buy a house, have a career, and raise a family in Connecticut. It bothers me that corporations can come into our state and provide a less than adequate healthcare coverage for their employees. Not only is it unfair and wrong to the employees of these corporations, but it places a major burden to other citizens of this state. I am asking lawmakers to continue to be progressive and to continue to pass landmark legislation. This means that we must stop large corporations from taking advantage of residents in our state; giving our neighbors less than adequate healthcare and causing other taxpayers to pick up their tab. In conclusion, we must do something. We must take a stand and pass this legislation. I thank you for your time and the opportunity to share with you how I feel regarding this legislation.