

"Madam Chair, Mr. Chairman (as appropriate) and members of the committee:

My name is CaroleMarie Pomerleau, I am the only natural born citizen of the U.S. in my entire nuclear family. I reside in East Haven, CT. I am here today to testify on the

Proposed Senate Bill #1 An Act Increasing Access to Affordable Quality Healthcare.

I am in support of this bill and would like to suggest that a telephone number be provided to those of

us who reach the Medicare Gap for the purpose of gathering statistical data.

Information could be provided to YOU by those of US who reach the Medicare Gap detailing:

dates we entered into the gap,
the amount it will take to get us out of the gap,
our total monthly income,
whether this ammount is realistic.

My case in point: I am a cancer surviving, brittle diabetic who had a quadruple cardiac by-pass graft in Sept of 2003. The grafts FAILED. I then had both mammary arteries re-routed to provide blood flow to my heart. I awoke from this surgery with a left-sided stroke. I was evaluated by my physicians and hospital staff. It was determined that my health was in such a precarious state that

they couldn't even risk sending me to a nursing home for rehabilitation. I was transferred to a special

rehab unit within the hospital where I recieved specialized care for another month.

I was told I would never work again. That thought of giving up my dream job was unimaginable to me. You see, I had been a director of social services for nursing homes in my area for 20 years.

In February 2001, I had been solicited to become a case manager / site program leader for a program called **"The Community Access and Wellness Information Network"**.

I know how important it is to get pure, imperical, statistical data and how powerfully vital this information is to the success of any program where accessibility is an issue.

Today, January 31st 2007, I stand before you a 49 year old permeanently disabled woman who is already in the Medicare Gap and I haven't even filled all my necessary presriptions! I now have to

pay over \$700.00 for my humalog, and can't afford my prescription syringes to administer the other

forms of injectable insulins I require to LIVE during the first month of coverage!!

Where is the quality of such healthcare? Can you even call this healthcare?

My familial heritage shows me that there are other ways to provide **quality healthcare** which is not

only **affordable** but **sustainable**. Healthcare should be **continuous** and **universal**. If third world

countries can do it why can't we?

In closing, again, I would like to propose that a telephone number be provided to those of us who reach the Medicare Gap for the purpose of gathering statistical data.

Thank you for your time and this opportunity.