Testimony on SB 562

Human Services Committee March 4, 2008

The spend-down program has always been a tough ordeal for those who have more money than the state allows a recipient to have. Everything is numbers and if you earn or receive a little too much, you're put on a spend-down. I know someone on the program and they have to spend $4,500.00 every six months. That's right. When the first six months is up, it starts all over again for the next six months.

Now let's consider this individual has medical bills, overhead bills, taxes, oh yeah, this person has to buy food and gas also. Like the rest of us who enjoy cable TV, this person can't afford it. It also happens to be the one best enjoyable thing for this person, the cable TV. Even worse, this is just one example. There are lots of people who are struck in the same or similar situation, my friends.

So today we are asking for some relief. Let me say again-much needed relief. This group of people that would be on the receiving end really deserve it. Please consider the lives of those who are not as privileged or lucrative as others.

Remember they are people too, just like you and I. We need food, gas, medication to live from one day to the next.

Thank you for listening in.

Your neighborhood advocate

Waterbury, CT