

## **Testimony on SB 163 An Act Concerning a State Earned Income Tax Credit.**

Good Morning.

My name is Yaira Arroyo I work full time here in Hartford and I am the mother of two. Since I've been working I have taken advantage of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit.

I support the state EITC!

- Because people like me that work still struggle to make ends meet, struggle to put food on the table and struggle making decisions between buying necessities, paying the bills and staying broke until the next paycheck deserve a break – and a way to move our families forward.

I file for my taxes every year, just last year I got my federal EITC and bought myself a used car so I had reliable transportation, clothes for my daughters, and some home accessories – things I could not have bought if I didn't get the money back. I would've paid a big portion of my student loan if I had received money from a state EITC – but that will have to wait. Let me tell you the Earned Income Tax Credit is very helpful because that's when most of us are able to buy or pay for stuff that we've wanted to get all year long like a car – so we can get to work or the grocery store. I know everyone would benefit from a state EITC! The families in my community benefit from it, we spend our money at the local stores, including grocery stores, clothing stores and furniture stores, so the stores would benefit from it too.

I work hard but it's hard to make enough money to pay for everything right now – like gas, groceries, clothing for my kids, and even things that other families enjoy. The EITC made those things possible.

I definitely support it for my family, my community and Connecticut.