

Testimony in support of Junta for Progressive Action, Inc.

Good afternoon, Chairs, Senators and Representatives. My name is Grecia Marmolejos. I am here on behalf of Junta for Progressive Action, Inc. Not only have I benefited from Junta through out the years but also the community of New Haven.

In my childhood, Junta helped my family with food and clothing, not only for me but also for my brother and sister. I still remember when my family would worry because there was no food or when it came Christmas time, no presents. Junta was always there to help with clothing, food and presents. Junta was a blessing to my family in the early years of us being here from Puerto Rico.

Because of Junta, my family was able to progress. My mother now works for the New Haven Board of Education; my sister is a secretary for a successful lawyer, my brother graduated with honors from college and now is a sergeant in the Air Force. As for me, I work for the New Haven Board of Education as a teacher assistant.

Junta has been in the Fair Haven community of New Haven for 40 years, helping and doing good work. What is going to happen to families like mine, who have nothing when they move here? Junta was put in the Fair Haven community to help individuals that no one wants to help.

Junta is a blessing for New Haven and the surrounding areas. Please take a closer look at the budget and **do not stop** Junta from doing their good work!