

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**JOSHUA SEAVEY**  
**FEBRUARY 23, 2010**  
**OPPOSITION TO SB 32**

My name is Joshua Seavey. I am from Fairfield, CT and I strongly disagree with the Governor's proposed Bill No. 32 Sec. 35 C for imposing co-pays of \$3.00 on certain medical services and prescription co-pays of up to \$20.00 on certain individuals enrolled in Medicaid. I am on Medicaid and have been on it for about a year and a half, the only insurance I can get right now because I am a person with a disability. I work part-time as part of my recovery and in order to help myself financially. But in order to keep my Medicaid I can't earn very much money. The proposed co-pays will further erode my limited income. It is discouraging to try to help oneself and then have to spend more money just to do it.

If the governor imposes these co-pays it will affect me and thousands of others like me with limited income. I have also been on spend-down in the past and have had to pay hundreds of dollars out of pocket for medication until I met the terms of spend-down. So now on top of that I have to start paying co-pays on medication and certain doctors appointments? This is unfair to people with disabilities and mental illness such as myself who are doing the best they can under difficult circumstances and already struggling financially.

I am currently living at home as I cannot afford my own place due to my income situation and I am just barely making enough money to pay my share of the rent and groceries. And there are many people who are living on their own who are in the same situation or similar situation as me as well as people living in shelters. This is going to hurt them even more.

I strongly recommend you reject Senate Bill 32. It is not fair to the hard working poor, disabled and people dealing with mental illness who need state services. This will be a major financial setback and road block in our road towards a better future.