

Wendy Cardenas

Norwalk Community College

March 14th, 2011.

My Testimony

Hello everyone, my name is Wendy Cardenas and I'm Undocumented and Unafraid American Student. I am currently a Norwalk Community College Student, paying out-state tuition. I support this bill because it will allow me to become a full time student and be able to apply to a four year school.

I am now taking two classes, which is six credits for both and I pay two thousand two hundred sixty eight dollars, plus the service and activity fee. If I was given the opportunity to pay in-state tuition the amount would be seven hundred fifty six dollars, which is a difference of one thousand five hundred and twelve dollars from out state. If I would like to become a full time student right now, and take twelve or more credits I would pay the amount of four thousand five hundred and thirty six dollars, compare to in-state which is one thousand five hundred and twelve dollars.

I work around thirty to thirty five hours a week and go to school two days. Is really hard to maintain good grades in class when I barely have time to study but I can proudly say I've maintained my 4.0 GPA. Education is my priority, but sometimes I feel tired and feel like giving up, but like everyone I have goals and dreams in my life and that's what keeps me motivated, because I was born a fighter not a quitter.

My family has being a big support economically and emotionally. Since we arrived to Connecticut we've being paying our taxes and going by the law. My parents work two jobs in order to help me pay college, because even though I work almost full time, it is not enough. We don't get any benefits, no help from anywhere; we just contribute to the state like any other American citizen.

I came here, and all I have done is serve in a positive way. I expect legislation that would allow me to do good. I am not a criminal. I love Connecticut, I love this country and all I want is to serve the country and the state.