

**Bonhomme, Penny**

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**From:** Linda M.E.Yannone [lmy1@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:18 PM  
**To:** PHC Testimony  
**Subject:** Linda Yannone, Sherman, CT- Final draft of testimony for tomorrow, Bill SB 425 The State Basic Health Program

Please except the below testimony for tomorrow's hearing.

Thank you so much,

Linda Yannone  
Sherman, CT

The Public Health Committee will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 10:00 A.M. in Room 1D** of the LOB.

The Committee is accepting electronic testimony via email at [phc.testimony@cga.ct.gov](mailto:phc.testimony@cga.ct.gov). **Please submit electronic testimony no later than 8:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 20, 2012. If you are unable to submit electronic testimony, please submit 10 copies of written testimony no later than 8:30 A.M. on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 in Room 3000 of the LOB.**

**I'm here to support Bill SB 425 The State Basic Health Program.**

**MY NAME IS LINDA YANNONE. We are a family of three, living in Sherman.**

**I AM A VERY RESOURCEFUL AND CREATIVE PERSON!**

**MY STORY PROVES THAT A PERSON BECOMES VERY VERY VULNERABLE WITHOUT ADEQUATE HEALTH CARE INSURANCE.**

**I LIVE IN FEAR OF LOSING MY HOME, MY HEALTH AND POTENTIALLY MUCH MORE BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT HEALTH CARE CRISIS IN OUR STATE.**

**I WORK AS A GARDNER AND DO FARMING FOR A LIVING. OUR DAUGHTER IS OF COLLEGE AGE AND STUDYING IN NH.**

**In 2006 my husband, Phillip lost his job at a NYS car (DEALERSHIP. )**

**He is in his early 60's (AND UNABLE TO FIND WORK FOR TWO YEARS. WHEN HE DID FIND ANOTHER JOB IT WAS FAR AWAY.**

**THE JOB HAD GOOD BENEFITS; BUT THERE WAS LITTLE WORK there AND HE LEFT AFTER A FEW MONTHS.**

**After that, we were able to qualify for COBRA, which was great, BUT IT COST NEARLY \$800 A MONTH.**

**WHEN THE ALLOTTED TIME WAS UP- B.C.B.S. OF NY CHARGED \$2,000 A MONTH FOR JUST THE TWO OF US!**

**At THAT point, I CHOSE to continue to keep my coverage, BECAUSE I HAD CONCERNS ABOUT MY HEALTH AFTER TAKING SOME TESTS.**

**WE WENT THROUGH ALL OUR SAVINGS.**

**THEN I LOST MY JOB, AND HAVE BEEN UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED for nearly (FIVE) years.**

**I am a cancer survivor, having had a cancer diagnosis in 1987 and then again in the late 1990's, for lymphoma.**

**I have SLS lupus along with chronic Lyme DISEASE- DUE TO MY WORK AND EXPOSURE AS A GARDENER.**

**We have had no health insurance for nearly 5 (FIVE) years. Our daughter is the only one that can have access through her college.**

**We have been unable to afford regular medical care and check-ups.**

**My husband FOUND A LOW PAYING JOB WORKING WITH A FRIEND IN SEYMOUR . HE WORKS FOR TEN DOLLARS per hour- WITH NO HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE.**

**As of late, I have had to ask the social services director in our town TO HELP PAY FOR MRI SCREENINGS.**

**SHE WAS ABLE TO SECURE HELP FROM THE SALVATION ARMY AND LOCAL CHURCHES IN SHERMAN.**

**This is no way to care for our citizens!**

**My story is another reason why you should support SB 425, the State Basic Health Program.**

