

Finance, Revenue and Bonding

Governor's S.B. No. 843: AN ACT CONCERNING REVENUE ITEMS TO IMPLEMENT THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET

Submitted by Maegan Parrott: Concerned family household in poverty

March 4, 2013

I am writing this testimony concerning the EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit) Cut. As a family household we are against the proposal for the reduction of this credit. I understand that I cannot speak for every family household in poverty but hope that you can understand that my family is not the only family experiencing such hardships.

I am a wife and a mother of two beautiful children. Currently both my husband and I are unemployed; however I was previously working at Wal-Mart during the year 2012 before I became a student at Mitchell College in New London Connecticut. Even when times were better and both my husband and I were working full time positions, we still were unable to make ends meet. Both of us had high school diplomas but neither one of us had college educations. It wasn't until 2008 and my family was a risk of being homeless that I realized that it was necessary to have a college education in order to prosper in this nation. Yet unfortunately, as students' not just workers, we were unable to receive assistance in continuing our education. Finding the finances for child care, internet and computer access, as well as school supplies on top of rent, utility bills, auto insurance, sudden unexpected expenditures and so on, seem impossible to the point that finishing college seems more of a hardship than an opportunity to prosper. For many as well as myself, we feel that it is easier to find a low paying job that we are eligible for and continue on state assistance than it is to further our education so that we are not dependent on the system.

This tax credit is an opportunity to assist in relieving our crisis so that we can continue to support our families' needs as we proceed in bettering our families' future. To reduce the amount of money received for this credit would be to reduce the amount of aid we receive for our family. Because of my experiences, I know that we are not the only family who is experiencing this and feel that this resource is critical to our families' survival. Thank you for your time.