

My Name is Nick K.D Chaleunphone, I am a sophomore at Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic, Ct. I am from Plainville, Connecticut. I am a Biology Major and expected to graduate with a Bachelors of Arts in Biology in May 2016 and go on to either Graduate Nursing school or Graduate Physician Assistant school. I am deaf in one ear and born with an Intersex condition.

I want to thank you all for letting me speak to you today about these cuts that will affect college students such as myself. As a full time college student in these tough economic times, A college degree is a ticket for me to a better job and entry into a professional school. It is very tough to find work in these tough economic times and a college degree, whether an associates degree or a bachelor's degree is a ticket to a better job. As a college student trying to make it in this world, it would hurt our chances for successful life and a successful career if you folks passed bill 844, "AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GOVERNOR CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION" in its current form. It would hurt college students such as myself and everyone in here who is trying to better themselves and into a better job.

Cutting money from college's such as Eastern, Southern, Western, Central and the community colleges will make it a heck of alot harder to graduate. It will impact us, not only in our wallets, but also our requirements to graduate from college with a degree. President Obama has often said that he would like to see colleges in this country boost graduation rates and push for more college graduates in this country by the end of his term. By taking money away from us, it would make it a lot harder for us to graduate on time and into the workforce. It would back track on president obama's promise of boosting more college graduates in this country.

So as a college student, I implore you not to cut us because it would make it harder on our wallets in these tough economic times and harder to graduate on time to enter the workforce or to graduate school.