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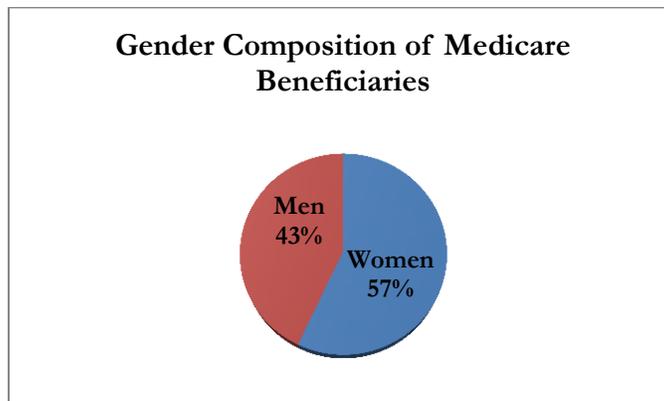
**Testimony of  
The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women  
Before the  
Human Services Committee  
February 26, 2013**

**Re: H.B. 6367, AA Implementing the Governor’s Budget for Recommendations for Human Services Programs**

Senators Slossberg and Markley, Representatives Abercrombie and Wood, and members of the committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) on the above referenced bill. PCSW is concerned about Section 21 of H.B. 6367, which would reduce income eligibility for HUSKY parents from 185% of the federal poverty level (FPL) to 133% of FPL.

*Impact on CT Women*

Medicaid, the state-federal health coverage program for the poor, provides low-income women with basic health and long-term care coverage. While often not considered to be a women’s health program, women comprise 55% of adult beneficiaries in Connecticut.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. *Connecticut: Health Insurance Coverage for Women Ages 18-64, 2009.*

Connecticut is currently developing a healthcare model to implement the federal Affordable Care Act in 2014. Eliminating adults from the program before the ACA act is implemented will be detrimental to many women that receive healthcare through Medicaid.

It is important to maintain women's health services in the final healthcare model, as well as provide gender appropriate, culturally competent, comprehensive and preventive, affordable and accessible healthcare. We look forward to working with you to address this important issue. Thank you for your consideration.