February 11, 2014

Good day, Madam Chair/ Mr. Chairman

My name is Novelette Brown. I reside here in Hartford. The Bill that I seek to endorse today is number 5029, titled An Act Concerning Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence on Campus. I am speaking from two fronts, one—as a commuter student myself of higher education specializing in the field of social work, and two—as the parent of a child living on campus. With this Bill in place we can now breathe a little easier knowing that we have the law on our side in the event of sexual and or domestic violence as we pursue higher education. In addition, often times as social workers victims of sexual and domestic violence are our clients and as such any law or amendment thereof that will prevent and protect us from these horrid experiences is significant. Not only are these acts atrocious when they are being committed but the problematic effects that sometimes occur as a result that continues on in the lives of victims for years to come, and as such immediate assistance in terms of counseling and medical services that this bill seek to provide is key. Therefore, July 1, 2014 will not be soon enough to see this Bill become the law.

Thank you.