

Testimony in support of HB5069 and SB32

To the members of the Labor Committee,

My name is Kristina Connors and I have worked at McDonald's for over a year. Not only are my wages too low at my job, but I also have trouble getting enough hours every week.

I can tell you that minimum wage is not enough to survive on. I am currently living out of my car in East Hartford because I can't afford a place on my own. Most of my money goes to paying for gas, which I need to get to work. I often have to choose what to eat based on how much money I have, and generally I can only afford to eat at McDonald's. I am in debt from medical bills, and can't afford to purchase insurance to avoid going in to more debt. I simply need to make more money to afford the basics. I want to work, and I think if I do, I should be able to survive.

As if the incredibly low wages weren't bad enough, I have also been forced to work through breaks that I wasn't paid for, received my paychecks late, and been told to work after clocking out. These huge corporations make so much money, and part of the reason is that they don't take care of the workers who are on the front lines.

We work incredibly hard, and we are worth a lot more than we get paid. That is why I decided to go on a one day strike in December to demand fast food workers be paid \$15 an hour.

Passing HB5069 and SB 32 would make my life easier. If I was paid more, I could afford to find a place to live and buy health insurance.

Thank you for your time.

Tina Connors
East Hartford