

Stephen Porcello
UConn Undergraduate Student Government

Hello, my name is Stephen Porcello and I am a freshman at the University of Connecticut. Today I came to testify not out of concern for myself, but for my sister. My sister is currently in 8th grade at Timothy Edwards Middle School in South Windsor. I love having her up to Storrs campus, to eat the classic Dairy Bar ice-cream, watch UConn basketball games, and hopefully, someday convince her to also attend the University of Connecticut.

As I look at the impending budget cuts, I fear for the ability of my sister to someday be accepted to, and attend the University of Connecticut. It is clear that the proposed budget cuts will fall on the backs of UConn students. Tuition will rise, and I worry that as my sister begins to look at colleges UConn will not have a comparative advantage in price. I also worry that to adjust for the loss in state funding, we will begin to see more out of state students accepted to UConn, as their tuition is higher. I would be saddened to see my sister not be accepted to the University I love, due to a concerted effort to accept more out of state students.

I love the University of Connecticut, and I want it to be a school my sister considers as she begins the process that is the college search. I am afraid that if the state continues down its current path, my sister, and more young students across Connecticut, will not be able to call the University of Connecticut home, like I have been so lucky to do.