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Testimony in support of HB 6117

Dear members of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of HB 6117 concerning the use of open textbooks for higher education purposes. My name is James Boissy and I am a freshman student at Trinity College here in Hartford and already I have spent over \$1,000 purchasing textbooks for my classes just in my first year. If this trend continues I will end up spending approximately \$4,000 out of my own pocket over the next four years for books on top of the already extremely high price of a college education. However, I am just the average in this regard. I have heard from other students who have been forced to spend \$1,000 in one semester alone. And these are students who are already in debt due to student loans they are taking out. It is my opinion that the adoption of open textbooks, which would be available at little to no cost, would remove a significant obstacle in the pursuit of a higher education; I urge you all to give your support to HB 6117.

Again I thank you for this very important opportunity to speak to this issue.

Sincerely,

James Boissy