

JOSEPH TOMASTIK
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306 EDDY HALL

Dear Members of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. My name is Joseph Tomastik, and I am a student at the University of Connecticut. I am writing to support HB 6117: an act concerning the use of open-source textbooks in higher education.

Throughout my time at UConn so far, I have paid a rough average of \$500 - \$1000 per semester on textbooks, adding to the already-heavy financial burden of attending college (a burden that will at least triple when my two younger brothers start attending!). Many people I've talked to have even claimed to have paid even more! This is an absurd amount of money to be paying for textbooks, many of which are no longer needed once I finish the semester I purchased them for. Not to mention, I barely even needed some of them to get through the course, but I had no way of knowing this would be the case when I purchased them. It is a waste of money, pure and simple.

So, I urge all members of this committee to support HB 6117.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH TOMASTIK