



**Human Services Committee  
March 12, 2015  
Senate Bill 1044 – Support**

Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie, and members of the Human Services Committee:

I am a member of CSEA SEIU Local 2001 and I am writing in support of Senate Bill 1044.

Among Americans who work in jobs paying the minimum wage, two out of three are women – including single moms. I am a child care provider in Hartford. Large corporations don't know it, but they really need me. I make it possible for their employees to get and keep their jobs. But you know what? I barely get by myself, because parents can't afford to pay me more than they already do.

I was pretty excited to hear about Senate Bill 1044. Why shouldn't really profitable corporations pay their employees a wage they can live on or else pay into a state fund that would help their employees with child care and health care. Right now, the corporations have worked out a pretty good deal with the state! And aren't these the same corporations that say they don't want big government?

SB1044 is a great bill! Why didn't we think of it years ago? Corporations have a choice. (I always give the children in my care choices. It helps build self-esteem.) They can either start paying their employees decent wages or pay the Low-Wage Employer fee to cover the costs of health care and child care! This is a no-brainer for middle class people who are suddenly realizing that they're taxes have actually been subsidizing corporate profits.

Let's stop blaming poor families for what's wrong with this country! Let's start actually doing something that will bring needed revenue to the state. We should set it aside to pay for services like child care and health care that will keep parents on the job and able to support their families. SB1044 does just that.

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