

Adam Zhitomi
Southern Connecticut State University
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Good Evening Members of the Appropriations Committee,

My name is Adam Zhitomi and I am a sophomore at Southern Connecticut State University. I am a Communication Disorders major and have enjoyed every second of my time at Southern. I am proud to be an Owl and look forward to the next few years at the university that is perfect for me.

I have always aspired to attend a Connecticut State University. My mom is a graduate of both Central and Southern and she loved her experiences at these institutions. I have always known that my place was at a medium sized school. After being here for almost two years, I can honestly say that enrolling in Southern was the best decision I have ever made. College is what you make of it and I have chosen to be as involved as my sleep schedule can handle. I want this incredible experience for all students looking to come to Southern.

With both of my parents living off of teacher's salaries, it has been a financial burden on my family to send me to college. Furthermore, my younger sister will soon graduate from high school and also intends to enroll in Southern for a communication disorders degree, which would double the financial burden on my parents. An increase in tuition would make it substantially more difficult for my parents to send my sister and me to college. I hope that this committee decides to continue supporting the Connecticut State University system so that families like mine can continue to send their children to receive an education.

Thank you for your time and I hope all the students here tonight show what kind of impact this would have on all our lives.