

Testimonial

To: Senator Bye, Representative Walker, Senator Gerratana, and Representative Dillon

Regarding: HB 5044

My name is Denise and I am a student at East Hartford High School. I would like to explain to you how the School Based Health Center has helped me throughout my 4 years in school. The nurse practitioner and the social worker have made a huge impact in my life. They helped me with my health and schooling and making sure that everything is going at ease. The service is so great and widely open to anyone who needs assistance. Everything that you talk about with the practitioner is confidential and they work to keep every student safe. I've realized that sometimes in life I've made some poor decisions and these decisions have put me in some tough predicaments and presented me with some hard obstacles in my life.

The social worker and the nurse practitioner have been there to provide me with open arms and ears to help me get through these tough times. They are always available to see me, as I can just walk in during passing time between classes to make an appointment or to be seen at that time. When things weren't so pleasant at home I'd come to school and actually have a place to feel welcomed and a place to talk.

If the funding would be cut it would affect a lot of students. This wouldn't turn out so good because many students use these services throughout the year. If it wasn't available I believe that many students wouldn't be able to further themselves, or have hope that they can become better.