Testimony of Carmen Andrade-Solis

I believe community colleges have a very important impact in many lives across the state because they provide affordable education for people who cannot afford to go to state and private universities. People can take the same level classes as the state schools but not spends thousands of dollars more than they should. Northwestern Connecticut Community College has given my sister and I an opportunity to continue our higher education and take our next step in our lives to follow our dreams to become veterinarians. I knew since I was five years old that I wanted to pursue a career in helping animals. NWCC is helping us towards that path. We are currently studying to be in the veterinary technology program. My family cannot afford to put both of us through state school because it would be way too expensive and we can't afford to pay for that kind of education on top of the other expenses in our lives. I love NWCC for the closeness of the students have for one another. I have made several friends this past semester and they already feel like family to my sister and I. Community colleges don't only help their students, but they also support their community around them because they offer adult education certificates for people that want to find another career path without going through two years of obtaining a degree. If Community colleges like NWCC did not exist, we wouldn't be in college, following our dreams and being the best we can be. Attending community college is the best decision I have made financially and educationally. Thank you for listening to my testimony.