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United for Quality Care

February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Pam Hunt, PCA  
Yalesville  
SEIU 1199NE  
Before the Insurance and  
Real Estate Committee

***In Support of SB 842: AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE AND HEALTHCARE IN CONNECTICUT***

Good Afternoon Senator Lesser, Representative Wood, and members of the Insurance and Real Estate committee. My name is Pam Hunt and I am a Personal Care Attendant (PCA) who lives in Yalesville, CT. I am here today to testify in support of SB 842.

I'm a PCA who cares for my son who has both intellectual and physical disabilities. I'm a single mom of 8 so thankfully I've qualified for Husky for most of my adult years. However, as my kids have moved out, I've gotten closer and closer to the cap. Last year, I priced out insurance and the monthly premiums would have been \$600/month on the private market with a \$5,000 deductible. There's no way I could afford that.

I'm a cancer survivor, and a COVID survivor, who supports my son with significant disabilities. And yet I'm close to the cap, which means I'm always in danger of losing my insurance. It's a shame that we have to be put in a position to cut our income just to make sure we can stay alive.

SB 842 would allow workers like me to live and work with a peace of mind knowing that our health and the health of our families are safe. It would allow me to give care worry free because I would know that if I need care I can afford it.

We live in the richest nation in the world, yet we literally have people who are dying because we can't afford to go to the doctors. The real possibility of me being in that group of people is imminent, and terrifies me. Please support SB 842.

Thank you for your time.