

Insurance Committee,

Connecticut faces a challenge. 2020 has taken a toll on families, small businesses, and everyday people all over the state between COVID-19, unemployment, and rising health care costs.

A resident of Greenwich, I have been a volunteer at food pantries in Bridgeport Connecticut long enough that I've come to feel I know a number of the people we serve, some in East Bridgeport, which faces particular blight at the best of times. Many of the people we serve have two or three jobs -- all quite part time so that their employers aren't obliged to provide them with insurance. Covid has brought job loss and death -- in November, nurses from a division of Yale-New Haven Hospital did covid testing to those we serve who were willing to be given the test. 17.8% of them had covid at the time of the test. Things have gone from bad to worse.

Please do all you are able to ensure that no one in Connecticut is left without healthcare coverage when they need it the most. I am calling you to support and pass S.B. 842, a bill that will create a public option in Connecticut.

We need a public option that:

Puts people over profits

Is available even when people lose their jobs

Is accessible to anyone regardless citizenship status

Offers affordable, reliable care

Doesn't break the bank for small employers who want to cover their employees

COVID-19 has shown us that everybody needs care they can count on. Health care is a racial justice issue, health care is a right. Health care makes our families and our businesses stronger. Please support S.B. 842 to ensure that all Connecticut residents has access to dependable, quality, affordable health care.

Thank you in advance for reading this email. Although partly boilerplate, a good deal of it is heartfelt.

Sincerely,
Sheila Traub

Sheila Traub
Greenwich, Connecticut 06830