

**Labor and Public Employees Committee
March 11, 2021 Public Hearing**

Testimony in Support of S.B. 1002 AN ACT CONCERNING LABOR ISSUES RELATED TO COVID-19, PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER STAFFING MATTERS

Testimony in Support of H.B. 6595 AN ACT CONCERNING LABOR MATTERS RELATED TO COVID-19, PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER STAFFING MATTERS

Senator Julie Kushner, Representative Robyn Porter, and distinguished members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee, my name is *Tasha Hall*. I am a resident of *New London* and a member of *CEUI*. I work at *The Department of Veterans Affairs* and I am an *Assistant Cook*

I am submitting testimony in support of S.B. 1002 An Act Concerning Labor Issues Related to COVID-19, Personal Protective Equipment and Other Staffing Matters and H.B. 6595 An Act Concerning Labor Matters Related to COVID-19, Personal Protective Equipment and Other Staffing Matters. I would specifically like to focus on Sections 12 – 14 of both bills.

My name is Tasha Hall and I'm a single mom of 3 children. One of my girls has respiratory issues. When Covid struck, no one could imagine how difficult it became to rearrange my life. The fear and stress that I would contract Covid and my girls would be without a mom was beyond comprehension never mind the thought of giving it to them. I am an essential employee and in direct care. My duties include serving meals and the delivery of food to the various units including The Covid Positive Unit. Many times I was fearful to come to work but continued to do so because I feared I might lose my job if I didn't. I had to make many life altering changes as my children were now at home and not going to school. Every day was and still is a risk. We continue to work in a hazardous environment and the fear of bringing this home to my girls is still very real and gives me severe anxiety.

I urge the committee to support both S.B. 1002 and H.B. 6595.

Thank you.
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