

**Antonakos, Michael**

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**From:** Hughes, Neal <Neal.Hughes@ct.gov>  
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**To:** LABTestimony  
**Subject:** Covid 19 hearing

**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 **Neal Hughes**. I am a resident of **Middletown** and a member of CEUI. I work at **DVA** and I am a 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.

Being an essential employee during the pandemic has brought on a lot of new anxiety and uncertainty. As an assistant cook I am responsible for cooking, serving, and delivering meals to people who have covid or may potentially have covid, which means I could potentially bring this to my family, some of whom have severe health issues. This has kept me isolated from them, which has kept me isolated and stressed, seeing as they are my support system. No matter how much PPE I wear this is still no guarantee I will not contract covid. Coming to work is a huge risk. Despite all of this, I still came into work every day while most others were staying home.

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

Thank you.

Neal Hughes  
Middletown  
(860) 834-2763  
Neal.Hughes@ct.gov