

**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 Gary LaFontaine. I am a resident of Coventry and a member of CEUI. I work at Department of Veteran Affairs and I am a Building Supernatant 2.

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.

**I was one of the designated essential workers to work face to face with Covid positive patients. We have two COVID wings, one in our Residential Facility and in our Healthcare Center.**

**On a daily basis I was dressing in my full PPE to go into our Covid wing to perform custodian work. We would clean bathrooms, take trash out, wiping down furniture, taking out hazardous waste etc. Starting in March 2020 until January 2021.**

**Unfortunately I caught COVID from working directly in our hot zone on November 10, 2020. I was hospitalized for 5 days & finished getting better at home for 10days. I'm still suffering with side effects due to COVID.**

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

Thank you.  
Gary LaFontaine  
Coventry,CT  
(860) 999-3820