

**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 **Zofia Mroczek**. I am a resident of **Berlin** and a member of **CEUI**. I work at **The Department of Veterans Affairs** and I am a **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.

I am a 21 year employee at the DVA. I have been working directly with other kitchen staff and serving the residents here on campus many of whom tested positive. 2020 was extremely stressful year as we watched the entire world basically shut down. Everyone was told to stay home and that it was too dangerous to be out. I did not have that choice as I am an essential employee. I remember coming to work as covid counts were rising daily and the fear and panic that I would be next. I slept on the sofa most nights so not to infect my husband. Sadly I did test positive along with my husband. I cannot begin to describe just how sick I became. I was out for a month with severe symptoms. The physical and emotional stress my body was unbearable. I can't remember a time I felt so unsafe at work. Contracting the virus is something I wish no one would ever experience again.

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

Thank you.  
Zofia Mroczek  
Berlin  
zofiamroczek@yahoo.com