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To: LABTestimony
Subject: S.B 1002, H.B. 6595

March 10, 2021

Senator Julie Kushner, Representative Robyn Porter, and distinguished members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee:

My name is Kathy(Kazimiera) Nizielski. I am a resident of New Britain CT and a member of CEUI. I work at the Department of Veterans Affairs as a Custodian.

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.

As an essential employee during the COVID pandemic, it has been a very stressful time. On December 11, 2020 I contracted COVID after it broke out on the floor I clean. I was out of work for two weeks and, to this day, I still have lingering side effects. I am constantly dizzy, tired and have severe body aches. I have gone through bouts of depression and I am paranoid about contracting the virus again even though I have been vaccinated. Even though I get tested every week, it does little to calm my nerves. I am afraid of bringing home the virus again to my loved ones. Now I have the added stress of trying to deal with side effects of COVID. Approving hazard pay would help boost morale with all of us essential employees because it would prove that our hard work and sacrifice are appreciated.

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

Thank you,

Kathy(Kazimiera) Nizielski
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