

**Testimony Supporting S.B. 1056 An Act An Act Expanding Access to  
Medical Services**

**Human Services Committee**

Testimony of Sandra Olsen

Haddam Neck, Connecticut.

**March 25, 2021**

Dear Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie and estimated members of the Human Services Committee,

My name is Sandra Olsen and I am a resident of Haddam.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in strong support of S.B. 1056.

After cuts in 2015, more than 11,200 parents lost coverage. This change included my daughter and her husband. They earned just over the cut off and were unable to afford coverage through the ACA. They are a very hard working and had 7 part time jobs between them and were beginning to save money to buy their first home in March 2020. Losing 4 of those jobs due to the pandemic has changed everything. She has a severe allergy to shellfish. She carries an epi-pen, which she purchases, but often it has expired. I have often urged her to seek medical attention for and tell her I will pay, but she is too proud to agree to this.

The pandemic has made it even more clear that access to health care starts with having health insurance. Without insurance or with deductibles and other costs too high to manage, people are less likely to get tested for COVID-19 or any other illness.

I strongly support this effort to ensure more CT residents have health insurance they can afford to use. Restoring eligibility limits for parents or HUSKY A to 201% of the federal poverty level.

Thank you for your time,

Sandra Olsen