

Name: Kathleen Misset

Title:

Organization or Agency:

Topic: HB06616 - AAC EXPANSION OF HUSKY HEALTH BENEFITS TO THOSE INELIGIBLE D...
Opposes

Testimony:

This bill goes way beyond the HUSKY expansions of the past that were enacted for those ineligible due to immigration status. By expanding beyond HUSKY A for kids up to 19, and expanding into HUSKY C and D for adults under 26, it opens up brand new territory and likely a huge cost to the taxpayers of CT. These are working age adults whose parents are no longer legally liable for them. Has the fiscal impact been thoroughly analyzed? Will there also be an income spend down for anyone over the income limits opening up coverage to even more individuals? By covering institutionalized individuals in this 12-26 expanded age group, will they take coveted spots from young Connecticut citizens on waitlists for some of the Medicaid waiver groups?

While a noble act to offer medical coverage with Connecticut funds beyond the rules set by the feds, this bill is more than doubling the age, so would likely more than double the number of newly eligible recipients. Connecticut could become very attractive for more and more non citizens, especially those needing extensive costly care. This can only make Connecticut's financial position more tenuous.