TIPS FOR TESTIFYING
INTRODUCE YOURSELF
I am a pediatrician from….

CLEARLY STATE YOUR POSITION
I am opposed to HB ###…..

PROVIDE THE EVIDENCE
Provide several reasons for your position with evidence and professional experience

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE
Share a patient story while maintaining confidentiality
05. USE A VISUAL
   Graph, table, etc.

06. LINK TO THE EVIDENCE
   Include hyperlinks to research, policy statements, etc.

07. ALLOW FOR FOLLOW UP
   Include or email address or say you would love to answer questions

08. BE CONCISE
   1 page or less than 3 mins
Good afternoon,

My name is Dr. Molly Markowitz, and I am a pediatrician who works in New Haven, CT. I am representing myself, and my views do not reflect that of my employer. I am speaking in strong support of S.B. No. 956.

Today I want to share a story about how the lack of health insurance for children can lead to great harm and negative health outcomes.

As a pediatrician, I care for all children regardless of insurance coverage. My story begins while I was working on the general pediatric floor. A young boy was transferred to my care from the pediatric intensive care unit, also known as the PICU. Children admitted to the PICU are the sickest patients. But, the good news was that this boy was on the mend.

After receiving a few more days of treatment in the hospital, he would be able to be discharged home to complete treatment.

However, I would soon learn that this patient would not be able to return home as expected. In fact, he would spend the next three months living in the hospital. The reason for this extended stay was lack of health insurance.

Lack of health insurance made it impossible to discharge this patient home because he could not receive lifesaving medical treatment. Health insurance would have allowed him to return home and attend school, his parents would have been able to return to work, and his family would have been able to live together. As a result, countless classes were missed, hours of wages were lost, and the patient spent many days separated from his family.

A child living in a hospital is costly and it is not just due to the cost of medical care. The cost on this patient’s and his family’s wellbeing was great. They all experienced great social and emotional harm due to the patient’s inability to leave the hospital.

This story is the story for many families. Due to lack of health insurance, children, often the most vulnerable amongst us, experience poorer health outcomes.

Research has shown that individuals who lack health insurance experience significant consequences such as worsening medical conditions, increased stress levels, loss of time at work, and cause of disability.

Therefore, today I am asking you to please vote in support of SB #956.

I would be happy to answer any questions and thank you for taking the time to listen my testimony.

Thank you
Oral- signup online and know the deadline! Option for zoom or in person.
My name is Dr. Molly Markowitz, and I am a pediatrician who works in New Haven, CT and I am the CT American Academy of Pediatrics Advocacy Committee Chair.

I am writing in strong support of HB 6616: An Act Concerning Expansion Of Husky Health Benefits To Those Ineligible Due To Immigration Status.

As pediatricians, every day we meet with patients and families to discuss the importance of diet, exercise, sleep, and so much more to prevent the development of chronic, debilitating, and life-threatening diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and cancer.

Research shows that children who lack health insurance are less likely to see a doctor, less likely to have a usual source of care. They are more likely to postpone care due to cost and are more likely to go without care due to cost.

![Barriers to Health Care among Children by Insurance Status](chart)

Data from the Kaiser Family Foundation

We know that the way children and young adults live today will impact their life for years to come. Therefore, it is critical that all children and young adults, regardless of immigration status, have access to medical care.

Thank you for taking the time to read my written testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions if helpful.

Sincerely,

Molly Markowitz, MD FAAP
Chair, Advocacy Committee
CT American Academy of Pediatrics Chapter
Email: molly.markowitz@yale.edu
Best to submit as a PDF on the CGA website!
QUESTIONS?

Please reach out!

molly.markowitz@yale.edu