

I am submitting this testimony in support of SB 346. I favor a public option not only because it's the right thing to do for Connecticut, but also because my husband and I are directly affected by the lack of affordable healthcare in CT. He has a small consulting practice and I have a small law firm. We do not have an employer who can subsidize the cost of our premiums. We are also years away from qualifying for Medicare. We pay very high premiums and have an 8k family deductible that makes us think twice about going to the doctor. I was diagnosed with osteoporosis five years ago and in that time was only able to gain access to medication (that I can tolerate) for a one year period when I was able to get financial aid to cover the Prolia injections. That aid is no longer available to me and I am doing without medication even though my condition is worsening. I am at risk of fracture from a fall so I avoid activities that put me at greater risk. With a public option, I would save at least 20% on premiums and have a lower deductible. This would allow me to afford the Prolia injections and would improve the quality of my life and my health and that of my husband. It would also give us peace of mind knowing that we can go to the doctor without paying such an enormous out of pocket deductible. Thank you for considering this bill. It is so important.

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Westport  
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