



Good Evening Senator Osten, Representative Walker and members of the Committee, my name is Christine Wright and I live in New Britain. I've been a healthcare provider for decades. I'm a CNA and a PCA and I take great pride in the work I do. I'm a professional. I've cared for multiple clients and gotten paid by Allied over the past 13 years, and I can honestly say I'm traumatized by my last experience with Allied. I don't know at this point if I'll get another client that uses them as a payroll agent because of the abuse I've experienced.

Last October, I filled out employment paperwork to begin caring for a consumer who needed overnight care. The Employee Status form I signed correctly noted that as a PCA I would make \$15.50 an hour, thanks to the raises we won together as a Union. I worked 36 hours for my consumer, three overnight shifts in which he did not sleep, but it was ok because that's my job and I did it well. However, when payday rolled around, I was paid less than half what I was expecting. I came to find out that Allied had paid me for only 28 hours at a different LOWER pay rate that I had never authorized or agreed to. Given that it was Christmastime, I was beside myself and fuming. I resigned on the spot, because I've been in this field too long and know my worth and won't work for any less than \$15 per hour.

Because I only was paid half what I was owed, I didn't have money to provide my daughter with the Christmas she deserved, and this isn't the first time this has happened. Last Thanksgiving Allied messed up my pay, and I had the saddest Thanksgiving I've ever experienced. It seems always around the holidays we're left without the basic right of being paid for the hours we've worked.

I filed a grievance with my Union and we finally had a hearing 2 months later. We are still waiting on an answer to my grievance, but as of this date, I STILL haven't been paid the money I'm owed. While I may not return to any consumers who get paid by Allied, I wanted to share my story to prevent this from happening to someone else.

We work hard, we love our consumers and love our jobs. But we deserve to be paid accurately and on time, every time.