

Nadeau, Karen

From: Ginny Schneider <ginnyschneider@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:27 AM
To: Nadeau, Karen
Subject: Testimony for Oct 15, 10AM Basic Income Security Study Meeting--Public Hearing

This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

Dear Karen,

Here is my testimony:

I support an untaxed universal basic income to improve the equalization of wealth. Currently, I pay 50% of my income in rent and cannot afford to buy a house. We essentially have no housing security because we are beholden to landlords who might increase the rent each year. If we could save for a down payment and could show more income, we would be able to qualify for a mortgage to buy a residence and pay a fixed amount monthly for housing that could even decrease depending on the interest rates.

Although my partner worked all his life, his social security does not cover all of his expenses and he is still paying back his student loan at age 70. He has tried to find work but, due to age and other discrimination, he has not found a position. Moreover, due to COVID19, he has not found a position this year that would keep him safe.

I have also worked my whole life, yet my social security is half of what I need to retire. Thus, I continue to work, taking a job from a younger person who, I am sure, would love the opportunity to work remotely in an essential service as I do.

Sincerely,

Ginny Schneider
South Portland, ME

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nadeau, Karen <Karen.Nadeau@legislature.maine.gov>
Date: Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 9:30 AM
Subject: Basic Income Security Study Meeting
To:

Interested parties,

The Committee to Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security (BIS) will be holding a public hearing (via the virtual meeting platform Zoom) on **Thursday, October 15 at 10 AM**. The meeting will start with a welcome by the chairs of the study committee and introductions by study committee members followed by a public hearing.

The following is a link to the BIS study committee webpage, where you will find the study's authorizing legislation, a study committee membership list, and meeting materials:

<http://legislature.maine.gov/basic-income-security-study>

The BIS study committee is inviting interested parties to testify via the virtual meeting and/or to submit written testimony. Specifically, the study committee would like to hear your thoughts on the feasibility of a universal basic income program for Maine and about the effectiveness of existing safety net programs, such as tax credit, child care and

food supplement programs, and compare those programs to any recommended direct cash payment programs. If you would like to testify, you must register in advance at the link below. If possible, please submit any written testimony to karen.nadeau@legislature.maine.gov prior to the public hearing. Testimony will be forwarded to study committee members.

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.
When: Oct 15, 2020 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: 10/15/2020 - UBI Public Hearing

Register in advance for this webinar:
https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_I54Yb_dCSdKCTzNRMx5nuA

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

If you would like to simply view the study committee meeting and public hearing, the meeting broadcast will be available on the Maine Legislature's YouTube channel at the following link:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCx7hJbrB_-t8KJgDiAbPuwg/videos?view=57&flow=grid

If you or anyone you know would like to subscribe to the BIS Study interested parties list, you may do so at the following link:
https://lists.legislature.maine.gov/sympa/subscribe/income.security-ip?previous_action=info

Future meeting notices will be sent only to the BIS Study interested parties list.

Thank you!

*Karen S. Nadeau
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