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Senator Rotundo, Representative Sachs, Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committees on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Labor and Housing: my name is Layla Wissink and I live in Falmouth, Maine.

I am currently a senior at Falmouth High School who is working a minimum wage job in Falmouth, meaning \$13.80 per hour. Being a full time student taking both college and high school classes while also playing a sport, I still manage to work three days a week afterschool.

I am incredibly fortunate and have my parents support for almost all of my finances. They both have well paying, reliable jobs and are able to support three kids. Because of their hard work my only financial worry is gas along with other car payments and saving for my future. Currently with gas prices and how much transportation I need based on the activities I fill up my tank about three times every two weeks. My paycheck that comes biweekly is just enough to pay for my gas with just a little bit of money left over, not enough to save. Because my parents have worked hard to support me, for me this amount of money is sufficient, of course I would like more but I do not need to sacrifice any other activities in order to work more.

I cannot imagine having more financial worries while also needing to go to school. Needing to pay for gas is already almost too much for me and my schedule. In order to pay for more necessary expenses like food or a roof over my head I would need to sacrifice some of my school time in order to live comfortably. Minimum wage is simply not enough to support someone in school and especially someone with a family they need to provide for.