

Testimony of Alexis Xiong

Before the House Committee on Higher Education

February 25, 2013

RE: HB 2838

Hello, I am a senior in Roosevelt High School. My name is Alexis Xiong. This is my last year in high school and I am 18 years old. I have family that are looking for a job because my dad was laid off from his work. I would like to find a job that can help my parents pay off some loans that they need help on paying. My dad was laid off from his old work because he was working for 14 dollars an hour and the company didn't want my dad to get a raise to 15 dollars an hour as a car wash man. Now that my dad is not working or can't find a job, I have a plan to pay for my own college loan and plan to learn what will be helpful in the future.

If I was to have a high school diploma and not have a college degree, then most jobs won't hire me because most jobs need a college degree to work. A college degree can help a person to find any jobs they want to work and be hired the next day compared to a high school diploma. We would have to wait for a while before being called to an interview.

I think the state should try the pilot program of Pay it Forward, given that it can help some students that can't pay for college classes. Most high school students would want to go to college to become what they want to become as their dream in high school.