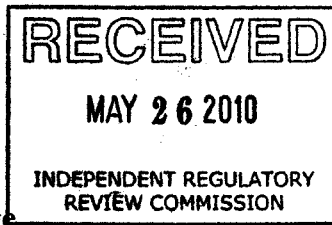


May 21, 2010

2833



#14-518-15

Lysa Brown
KEYS Student
Montgomery County Community College

Board of Income Maintenance
Board of Policy

Re: Proposed Regulations

I am a student who has fulfilled all but six credits required to graduate from Montgomery County Community College, and who has maintained a 3.5 GPA while doing so. I am honored to write this letter because I am in gratitude for all the opportunities that have been placed before me through the KEYS program. As a nontraditional student and single parent of eight children, one can imagine the obstacles that could stand in my way. Proper daycare, reliable transportation, money for books and supplies are among a few of the issues that could impact my success as a student. As we all know, being a successful student is the key ingredient in the transition to self sufficiency. Allow me to emphasize my relationship with self sufficiency as I am an advocate of that principle. My goals are to start a nonprofit organization that assists woman in reaching a level of self sufficiency. My schooling has been a pertinent factor in the achievement of that goal. It has allowed to meet people in the nonprofit sector leading to various volunteer commitments. This fact along with my degree from school will assist me in obtaining a job, and in addition, start my career as the CEO of a nonprofit organization. Imagine that effect on my family, my children, my peers, and the whole community.

I will not hesitate in saying that without sufficient supportive services none of this could be possible. I know this because I tried in the past to go to school without support and dropped out because I did not have the proper resources needed to maintain attending school. KEYS has been the difference in my life. Please continue to allow us as students all the supportive services without interruption or restrictions such as \$1500.00 in a lifetime for a car repair. Regulations such as this will keep people on welfare and ultimately waste all the dollars that have been spent as this will become a major obstacle in the transition to getting off welfare and getting a stable job.

PS. Two out of my three children over 18 are attending college.

Lysa Brown