

Chairman Dolan and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I started by working in a coffee shop, for all my life it was the only thing I had known. I hated my job. Everyday walking in some place full of dread. My life was a pit of going nowhere. The people in my life could tell I was wearing thin. One night I was talking to my mom, and she suggested something in the dental world.

I found someone who was practicing as a dental assistant. She pointed me in the right direction. Once in contact with Assist to Succeed, everything fell into place. I loved the classes and instructors. Learning something new each week was fulfilling.

After classes had ended I felt prepared to enter into the field. I was blessed to end up in an amazing office. Each day I walk into work excited to face new challenges while putting my skills to work. I love my job. I enjoy what I do. My life has turned out for the best. Thanks to my schooling funded by the RLP. I would never have been able to afford the schooling even though it is much less than a college tuition. The RLP changed my life and gave me an opportunity to make something of myself. It is so important for this to continue for all the other potential students out there that feel they are at a dead end as well.

Thank you for your time.

Lauri Johnson