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Printed: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:44 AM

From : jajeen morgan <jajeenmorgan@yahoo.com>
Sent : Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:34 AM
To : boursler@msn.com
Subject : my testimony

<DIV>My name is Jajeen Morgan and I am a 32 year old mother of 3 children. I am a high school graduate and I've completed two years of college. Since our kids were born I have held several jobs, occasionally more than one at a time, in order to make ends meet. My husband makes what should be considered a "good living" and at one time was. But now just isn't enough to meet our financial needs, so I've taken jobs such as waitressing, truck loading, retail, working with autistic children, and childcare in order to have enough money to pay our utilities and have enough groceries for the week. On average these jobs have paid between 5 and 7 dollars an hour. They have been helpful but not helpful enough. Even with my husbands and my income combined we still don't make enough to afford childcare/afterschool programs for our three kids. I am in nursing school trying to create more opportunity for myself and my family. But it is extremely difficult to find a job, or a decent paying job that will accommodate your family and school schedule.

The best paying job I had was loading trucks. It was very labor intensive, but working the over night shift paid \$9 an hour so I could not pass it up, that particular job was a union job, and I had health benefits for the first time. I worked it for one summer until the physicality of the work and the nighttime hours became so wearing that and it was difficult caring for my children the next day while my husband went to work.

Currently I work at a candy store. I am happy to have a job and like the person I work for, but the pay is just not enough. I make \$6 an hour and I have no health benefits. While my kids enjoy getting candy at a discount, I need to be able to have a job pays the bills at the end of the day.

I consider myself a smart, hard working person with initiative, I am an asset to any job I work, yet I still can't find a job that meets my family's basic needs, something is very wrong with that picture. </DIV>

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