3906 SW Banbury Drive

Bentonville, AR 72712

May 8, 2015

Governor Asa Hutchinson

Street Address

Little Rock, AR zip code

Dear Governor Hutchinson:

Would you give money to an addict to assist them to buy drugs? Would you assist a person to steal money, so he could support their habit and break the law? Of course not. Then why are welfare recipients in Arkansas given welfare benefits without drug testing? As a concerned student in the state of Arkansas, I am writing to you to implore that Arkansas implement mandatory drug testing to all people who receive benefits in order to increase accountability of funds, reduce drug addiction, and promote more self-sufficiency with welfare programs. = **CLAIM**

**Hook**

**(FIRST POINT)**

The counter argument

A main reason for requiring drug testing is to increase the accountability of public funds. Even though critics of drug testing state that it violates the second amendment rights of the person, this should not apply when recipients are not employed and are receiving public funds. They relinquish their right to complete privacy and choice when they start accepting money that is earned by hard working individuals of the state as their monthly support. With this gift comes accountability for how they use the money. . . . *The rest of this paragraph should be facts, quotes, and analysis about increasing accountability of state money by screening candidates for welfare (est. 14-15 sentences per body paragraph)*

**(SECOND POINT)**

Another key point is that mandatory drug testing can begin to reduce the number of drug dependent citizens in our state. . . . *The rest of this paragraph should be facts, quotes, maybe your interview quote/information, and other commentary about how drug testing can improve addiction rate.*

*\*each quote needs a citation of (“article”) or (author) after it. You should have at least one quote per body paragraph of text evidence. Online sources do not usually have page numbers in the citation.*

**(THIRD POINT)**

Finally, Arkansas needs to be concerned with promoting self-sufficiency with welfare programs. We should not provide funds that purely provide food, shelter, or childcare vouchers with no expectations for the recipient’s life to improve. The state should require that the recipients participate in drug testing, job training, education, or other programs while receiving welfare, with the intent that they will be able to get off public service in a set amount of time. . . *The rest of this paragraph should be about facts, quotes, commentary about how to make welfare become a way to improve the quality of life for the long-term and not a short-term solution.*

**(CONCLUSION)**

In conclusion, Arkansas needs to reevaluate its criteria for how welfare recipients’ qualify for support, and mandatory drug testing is a small price to pay for this needed accountability. The public should be guaranteed that the money that is taxed from them and used for welfare programs is given to those who are deserving and not addicted. No addict should be given help other than to rehabilitation. If we are supporting the purchase of alcohol and illegal drugs with public funds, it is the same result as if we stopped and purchased heroin ourselves and gave it to a man on welfare. In that case, we would be breaking the law, so why is this method acceptable?

Sincerely,

*(insert your actual signature in pen after you print)*

Your Name

\***single spaced,** Times New Roman, 12 font

\*intro, 3 body paragraph, and a conclusion in a letter format

\*you may use “I” in a limited basis (mainly in the intro to establish who you are) since this is in the format of a business letter.

\*include a separate page for the Works Cited (final copy does not need the summary paragraphs)

\*you need TWO COPIES of the letter and works cited with ONE addressed business size envelope, stamped due on Wed, May 27.

Works Cited

Brown, Jenny. Email interview. 9 May 2015.

Kelley, Jennifer. Personal interview. 10 May 2015.

Webber, Bradley. Phone interview. 12 May 2015.