

From: Rjtasb [mailto:rjtasb@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2009 2:01 PM
To: Sen. Prague, Edith
Cc: Rep. Donovan, Christopher; kevinryan@cga.ct.gov; Sen. Guglielmo, Anthony; governor.rell@ct.gov; Schuetz, Jason

Subject: Re: Legislation mandating employee sick leave

Thank you for the information. I did contact the Labor Committee and received the information for attending the meeting Tuesday, however, I am sending this in response to all contacts in the hope that someone will represent us at the meeting.

We are a successful manufacturing firm, but not by accident! It takes daily effort on the part of all of us at ASB to succeed and according to the committee I would need to loose as much as 4 hours Tuesday away from work to testify. It simply is not practical. Moreover everyone listed in the email should be our "representative" so if that is the case, one, or better yet all of you should relay our information.

Business does not always make money automatically as confirmed by the large companies that have gone to the government "well" for bail outs". Small business survives because they really have no choice! The government says they want to help but, that help starts at the top, where it shouldn't be needed and before it gets to us.....it's gone!. If companies made money all the time and automatically why are there so many companies that have been given bail out money?

The notion that any business...but particularly small business has a bottomless pit of money is ridiculous. Business is only successful if all it's employees contribute to its success and that means being at work and being productive, something that has been lost over the years. Why is it that certain companies seem to be "entitled" to government money and other's don't? Is it because the one's that are entitled have put themselves in a position where there is "no alternative"? There always is an alternative! They have a responsibility to be successful for themselves and everyone around them. Who will give ASB money if our expenses continue to rise through no fault of our own and we can't pay our bills. During tough times we work every day to find ways to save "pennies" knowing they will ad up to "dollars" but if we are mandated to pay for "entitlements" there is no way to manage or control it. It's largely out of our hands.

The auto industry received money...they're back for more and there doesn't seem to be a real plan for that to stop. It would have been better for the government to give each American adult a voucher for 20K for the purchase of an American made automobile and then tell the auto industry, "you want the money? It's your responsibility to find a creative way to convince the consumer to buy from you!". That would have been better.

How can any business pay for employees to be "entitled" to be absent and in additional either not have work completed that will bring income to the business or worse complete the work but at the expense of increasing costs to have someone else do it.

In closing let me try and state this as simply as possible. It's amazing that if I were going to apply for a home mortgage...I would be judged and approved or disapproved by someone who needed to get a "bail out" because they couldn't manage their company!!!! What's wrong with this picture?

PLEASE don't perpetuate this....small business can't afford to pay for "entitlements"! There just is no money!!!!!!

I am accessible 24/7 as all emails are forwarded to my PDA!

Richard Toney
Director of Operations
American Sleeve Bearing LLC
1 Spring Street
Stafford Springs, CT 06076

800.969.2721
800.969.5966 FAX
860.604.2355 Mobile

www.asbbearings.com