

February 4, 2009



To the Connecticut Labor Committee:

My name is Thomas Costello, Chief Financial Officer at The Siemon Company in Watertown CT. Our company has been in business for over 100 years in the state of Connecticut and we are trying very hard to stay in business for the next 100 years. The proposed paid sick regulation will be an additional burden on CT businesses at a time when we need to remove burdens on businesses. We need to help kick start the Connecticut economy by reducing the burden on business. We recognize the stress on employees as well but supporting businesses is the best way to minimize layoffs and help keep Connecticut workers employed during this economic crisis. Adding burdens to business in the midst of a recession will insure that Connecticut will lag the recovery when the recession is over.

Therefore, I am opposed to HB-6187, which would require Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave. Please let Connecticut businesses work with their employees to provide the right level of benefits that the employees need and the company can afford.

I ask that you reject this proposed legislation and any other that adds burdens to businesses in Connecticut and look for ways to work with businesses to identify ways to make Connecticut more attractive to new businesses and more efficient and cost effective for our existing businesses. Thank you.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Costello".

Thomas Costello
Chief Financial Officer

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