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# *STEVENS COMPANY, INC.*

*Specialists in Eyelets and Stampings*

P. O. BOX 428 • 1085 WATERBURY ROAD • THOMASTON, CT 06787

February 3, 2009

To Members of the Labor Committee:

My name is Michele A. Caulfield, Vice President of Administration at Stevens Company, Inc. in Thomaston.

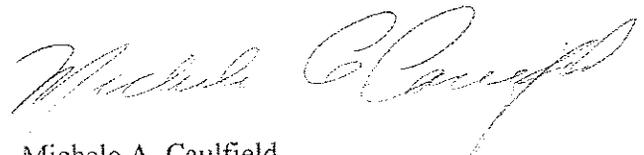
I am writing to voice my opposition to HB-6187, which would require Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave. This proposal will substantially increase our business costs and could force us to reevaluate the other benefits we provide our employees.

Stevens Company currently provides its employees with paid vacation time, nine paid holidays and a generous benefits package, including medical and dental coverage, short term disability, and life insurance. To add required sick leave to the financial burden of these benefits at a time when the economy is forcing Stevens Company (and most other businesses) to furlough much of its work force and/or reduce work hours to survive will be the straw that breaks the camel's back. I am, honestly, shocked to hear that this measure is once again up for consideration, especially in these dire economic times.

I urge you to reject this proposal and work with the business community to control labor and workplace costs in Connecticut. As a struggling business manager, I will be watching the result of this vote closely.

Thank you.

Signed,



Michele A. Caulfield  
V. P. Administration