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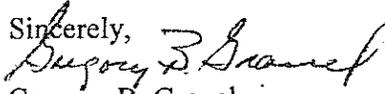
February 4, 2009
Connecticut General Assembly
Labor and Public Employees Committee
Room 3800 Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Ct. 06106

Dear Members of the Labor Committee

I am writing to voice my opposition to HB-6178, which would require Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave to all employees.

My organization provides a full benefit package to all employees to work twenty (20) hours or more per week. That package includes holiday pay, vacation pay, sick pay, full health care, short term and long term disability pay and life insurance. The nature of our works requires that we have a significant number of employees who work less than twenty hours. These positions are primarily filled by high school and college students who we schedule based on their school schedules. These are well paid positions that have built in flexibility so as to accommodate their needs and, at the same time, meet our organizational needs. Adding a sick time requirement would add significant unbudgeted cost to our operations, estimated to be in the \$20,000 a year range. In these challenging times, any unplanned costs need to be avoided.

I would urge that you reject this proposal and instead look to ways that can help all of us that are in business stay in business.

Sincerely,

Gregory B. Gravel
President/CEO

