



February 23, 2010

Dear Members of the Labor Committee:

I am writing today in opposition to Senate Bill 63, *An Act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees*, which would require Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave.

This proposal will substantially increase business costs to our membership and could force them to reevaluate the other benefits they provide for their employees. The Tolland County Chamber of Commerce cares about our members and wants them to be able to keep and attract good people. Most businesses already offer sick time policies, as well as other benefits. However, benefit packages based on market conditions, competition, overall work flow, are often discussed and negotiated privately with employees prior to their hire.

As businesses struggling collectively through the uncharted waters of a lengthy recession, we appreciate the flexibility of the current law which enables us to negotiate our own policies without the state creating new mandates. We want businesses to stay in Connecticut. However, legislation like Senate Bill 63 sends the message that some in our state government would prefer we reconsider.

We urge you to reject Senate Bill 63 and work with Connecticut's employers to help reduce the cost of doing business in our state to, ultimately, create *more* jobs and attract other businesses.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Candice Corcione  
Executive Director

Andover • Bolton • Columbia • Coventry • Ellington • Hebron • Mansfield  
Somers • Stafford • Tolland • Union • Vernon • Willington