PETER PAUL electronics co., inc.
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February 25, 2010

To Members of the Labor Committee:

My name is Judi Spreda, Human Resource Manager at Peter Paul Electronics Co, Inc. in New Britain Connecticut, a world class manufacturer of solenoid valves. We employee 120 people and operate two shifts per day.

I am writing to voice my opposition to SB-63, 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.

If this bill is passed, we will have no choice but to revise other benefits to free up resources to pay for these additional sick days. One example would be the paid personal day program. Our current vacation benefit, allows for three weeks vacation after five years and four weeks after 15 years. A large majority of our employees have been with us between 10 and 15 years. If you do the calculation for a five year employee, the company would loose 160 hours of productivity for the four weeks vacation, plus another 52 maximum hours for the mandatory sick days. This equates to a total of 212 hours of lost productivity while the company continues to pay the employee. If this employee earns $10.00 per hour, it equates to $2,120. This does not take into consideration any other benefits that go into the total compensation for this employee.

We urge you to reject this proposal and work with the business community to control labor and workplace costs in Connecticut. Thank you.

Signed,
PETER PAUL ELECTRONICS

Judith T. Spreda
Human Resource Manager