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To Members of the Labor Committee:

My name is Julianne Roth, President at Companions for Living, LLC. Our agency provides non-medical home health care services in the Hartford and New Haven areas.

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 expansion of our agency, and the new job opportunities we plan to provide in the marketplace.

Our staff is comprised of direct employees to our company. However, they work on a per diem basis. We only earn income for time that they actually work, and in fact if someone was to call out sick, we would not only have to compensate their time, but the time of the person who would replace them. This means we would be losing money for those clients we serve. We try to keep our rates as affordable as possible so that people who need our services can afford to pay for them. The result is tight margins. If this bill passes, we would be required to examine how we would need to make up the deficit. In addition, I see this as promoting staff calling out sick, when in fact they might not need to.

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

Signed,

Julianne Roth