

**M. J. CHIRONNA
21 GENEVA ROAD
NORWALK, CT 06850**

Testimony IN SUPPORT of Proposed S.B. No. 63
An Act mandating employers provide paid sick leave to employees
The Labor Committee

February 25, 2010

Dear Legislators:

My name is M.J. Chironna and I am a resident of Norwalk. I have also been a working parent for a total of thirteen years.

I am in favor of proposed senate bill number 63, an act mandating employers provide paid sick leave to employees, and would hope that you support it. As a working mother, I have had to choose between sending my children to school sick, going to work with my sick children, or taking time off from work to care for my children. These have not been easy decisions and have had consequences.

For example, the consequences of sending my children to school sick have included not taking care of my children when they are ill and infecting the children and teachers at the schools. Also, one time I brought one of my children to work with pink eye and I was reprimanded for bringing my child to work with an infectious disease. The employees of my company were exposed to pink eye. Finally, the consequence of taking time off from work to care for my children decreases my paycheck. These decisions would not have to be made by many parents if senate bill number 63 is passed.

Over the years, I have been much more dedicated to the companies that have provided the benefits of sick days. If I have been out of work due to sick time, I have been a much more committed and efficient employee to these organizations. In addition, I have worked at these companies for longer periods of time.

The passing of this bill would have a positive effect on the financial well being of businesses and a huge difference in the lives of many families.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

M.J. Chironna