



GERBER SCIENTIFIC

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February 25, 2010

State of Connecticut
Labor and Public Employees Committee
Room 3800, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

To Members of the Labor Committee:

As Vice President, Human Resources Americas for Gerber Scientific, Inc., which has its headquarters in South Windsor and conducts operations in both South Windsor and Tolland, I am writing to voice my opposition to SB-63, which would mandate Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave to hourly and non-exempt employees. This proposal will increase our business costs and force us to reevaluate the other benefits we provide to our employees that have already been adversely affected by the economic climate, other mandates and rising costs to provide benefits.

Gerber Scientific, Inc. currently provides sick leave benefits for its hourly non-exempt employees and goes a step further by writing a check for any unused sick time as a bonus to such employees each year on or about their anniversary date with the Company. SB-63 goes beyond what we currently provide for sick leave and would cause us to consider dropping the unused sick time bonus that our hourly non-exempt employees currently enjoy. Further, configuring a benefit of this sort that is based on hours worked also creates an administrative hardship to our human resources, IT and payroll personnel that already are stretched to keep up with their current business demands.

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

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Dolen
Gerber Scientific, Inc.