

# **AGWAY**

## **YOUR YARD, GARDEN AND PET PLACE**

North Branford North Haven Middlefield Manchester Bethel Southington

2/25/10

Connecticut Labor Committee;

As an owner of six retail stores with over 120 employees I find the need to regulate sick pay as another obstacle in running a business in Connecticut. Increased state fees, high costs of energy, workers comp, taxes, & health insurance already make it difficult for businesses, especially in the current economic climate. Adding more mandated costs is another obstacle to job creation and economic stability/growth. I provide paid vacation and sick time for my full time employees and they are made aware of these benefits when interviewed and again when hired. If a prospective employee feels we do not provide enough pay and/or benefits then they are free to look elsewhere. I do not expect the government to dictate what benefits an employer should provide.

Mandating this will have a negative effect on my employees, my customers, my business and others. In addition, I think it is completely unfair to require benefits for part time staff. This would hinder job creation and eliminate some jobs that people use to supplement their income.

Please do not support SB 63.

Sincerely,

Terry Bergantino  
CT Gardens, Inc.