

913

March 1, 2011

To the Members of the Labor & Public Employees Committee:

We the undersigned associations representing thousands of Connecticut businesses employing hundreds of thousands of people in the state urge you to reject Senate Bill 913 An Act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Their Employees.

Especially during the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, with businesses struggling to stay open and more than 100,000 Connecticut people already out of work, SB 913 is poorly timed and much too costly.

If passed it will:

- Raise the cost of doing business significantly for many employers and add unwarranted costs to those struggling in this economy
- Force some employers to reduce other employee benefits or wages to pay for it
- Cause some employers to abandon their plans for job creation, capital investment and other actions needed to make our economy grow again
- Make Connecticut uncompetitive by sending the message that the state is unfriendly to business

As employers, we literally cannot afford the price of this legislation; Connecticut also cannot afford to be seen as the first state in the nation to pass such an anti-jobs measure.

Businesses in Connecticut are doing everything they can to keep their doors open, hold onto jobs, and create more. This measure will endanger all of those efforts.

That's why we strongly urge you to reject SB 913.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Associated General Contractors of Connecticut (AGC)  
Bridgeport Regional Business Council  
Central CT Chambers of Commerce  
Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT  
Cheshire Chamber of Commerce  
Connecticut Alarm and Systems Integrators Association  
Connecticut Asphalt and Aggregate Producers Association  
Connecticut Association of Health Underwriters

Connecticut Association of Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors  
Connecticut Bankers Association (CBA)  
Connecticut Benefit Brokers  
Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA)  
Connecticut Construction Industries Association, Inc.  
Connecticut Environmental and Utilities Contractors Association  
Connecticut Heating and Cooling Contractors  
Connecticut Ready Mixed Concrete Association  
Connecticut Retail Merchants Association (CRMA)  
Connecticut Road Builders Association  
East Hartford Chamber of Commerce  
Fairfield Chamber of Commerce  
Glastonbury Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce  
Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Norwalk Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Home Builders Association of CT, Inc. (HBA)  
Independent Electrical Contractors of New England  
Independent Insurance Agents of Connecticut (IIAC)  
Metal Manufacturers' Education and Training Alliance (METAL)  
MetroHartford Chamber of Commerce  
Middlesex Chamber of Commerce  
Milford Chamber of Commerce  
Motor Transport Association of Connecticut  
Movers & Warehousemen's Association of Connecticut  
National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)  
Naugatuck Chamber of Commerce  
Newington Chamber of Commerce  
North Central CT Chamber of Commerce  
Northeastern CT Chamber of Commerce  
Northwest Connecticut's Chamber of Commerce  
Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce  
Ridgefield Chamber of Commerce Inc.  
Shoreline Government Affairs Committee  
Simsbury Chamber of Commerce  
Smaller Manufacturers Association of Connecticut, Inc. (SMA)  
Society for Human Resource Management  
Southington Chamber of Commerce  
The Business Council of Fairfield County  
The Chamber of Commerce, Inc./Windham Region  
Tolland County Chamber of Commerce  
Waterbury Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Watertown-Oakville Chamber of Commerce