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To: Members of the Legislature's Labor and Public Employees Committee

My name is Christian Queen. I own and operate a small manufacturing company located in Manchester. It is a 26 year old company specializing in the tool and die (no pun intended) industry. We currently employ 26 people.

I am writing to oppose SB 913, an act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees. This proposal will substantially increase costs and could cause us to evaluate other benefits we provide to our employees.

If Connecticut is truly "Open for Business" then why are we trying to burden businesses that are here with additional mandates and signal to companies that might consider Connecticut as a location that we have the most unfriendly business climate in the country?

If this committee wants to signal that Connecticut is in fact open for business then you need to stand up to powerful special interests and defeat this bill.

Businesses are already struggling with skyrocketing healthcare, energy and commodity costs while trying to remain competitive in a global economy. The state is struggling with high unemployment and record deficits. This bill will make both situations worse.

I urge you to reject this proposal and work with the business community to control the cost of doing business in Connecticut. Growing our economy is the only solution to many of the problems our state faces.

Respectfully,

Christian Queen  
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