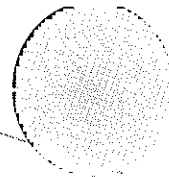


From the desk of Claribel Gracia



Testimony IN SUPPORT of SB-913 for Paid Sick Days
March 1, 2011

Testimony for the Labor Committee on the Paid Sick Days Legislation:

I am writing in support of SB 913. I have seen the negative consequences when workers do not receive paid sick days.

Recently my mom was forced to choose between her health and her ability to pay her bills. She did not receive paid sick days, so when she needed to make a few appointments to see her doctor she knew this would mean losing pay. Ultimately she decided to lose the pay because she needed to go to the appointments. She went to her manager and requested time off in advanced to go to a series of medical appointments. She was expecting to have a hard time paying her bills that month. What she didn't expect was that she was let go as a result.

I also have worked jobs without paid sick days. This has meant going to work sick, risking my health as well as spreading my illness.

I urge you to support the paid sick days legislation. Workers should not have to lose pay, or worse their jobs because of an illness.

Thank you,

Claribel Gracia

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