

Date: 02/23/2011

To: Members of the Labor Committee

My name is Frank Giangrave. I own and operate Frasal Tool, a small manufacturing company located in Newington, CT . We are a 40 year old company specializing in special tooling for various industries. We currently employ approximately 10 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.

Every year, new manufacturing businesses emerge across the world providing their cheap labor costs creating our inability to raise our prices. One would expect as costs rise a business should have the ability to pass its costs on to their customers, but to the contrary this is not the case for, at least, small manufacturing companies. I cannot place enough emphasis on how our business continues to become increasingly more difficult to run year after year. 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,

Frank Giangrave