



02/25/2011

Reject SB 913: Mandatory Paid Time Off

CT Labor and Public Employees Committee

I am writing to request that you reject this poorly timed and wrong-headed legislation. My primary business, Dornenburg Group, has been in business for 17 years. And we have for all 17 years provided 5 paid sick days, plus paid vacation, holiday, and personal time. But I strongly oppose mandated paid sick leave. I oppose expanding the benefit to 6.5 days per year. And I strongly oppose a government mandate that will surely turn paid sick days into paid vacation days.

It is extremely difficult for smaller companies to remain competitive when employees call in sick. We have deadlines to meet and often end up calling temp workers to finish the work – paying twice for the same service. There is rarely budget these days to cover any unforeseen expense, so the extra cost comes out of profit. That profit goes for new computers, upgraded software, and other important investments – which ultimately lead to growth and hiring more employees.

I am a life-long Democrat. But my Republican friends constantly point to the CT Legislature as an example of government gone wrong. About a group of people so tone-deaf to business that they will continue to heap burdens on Connecticut businesses until there are no businesses left here. This is an issue that will either prove them right or prove them wrong. Reject SB 913. In a time when everyone will prosper by the creation of more jobs, this bill will make employees more expensive and discourage job growth. It is almost beyond belief to me that this bill could be receiving serious consideration at this time.

Jeff Dornenburg
President