

9/13

Testimony IN SUPPORT of SB 913 for Paid Sick Days

I support paid sick days for many reasons.

Most people get sick sometimes and they should not be punished financially when that happens. They should not come to work sick and expose others. This is common sense.

This issue is important to me because I am a school counselor in a public school system and often work with parents who are forced to send their sick children to school because they are unable to stay home with their children. This impacts the school learning environment and well-being of our school. Parents should be parents and in many cases want to be parents, but in tough times missing work/ staying home means one or more days of no pay and this significantly impacts the survival (week to week) of many of our Connecticut families.

In addition, implementing a paid sick day program in which employees earn one hour of sick time for every 40 hours of work provides hard working people an incentive to consistently work. Often the companies that do not have paid sick leave also have the highest percentage of transient workers/ employee. Why wouldn't a company want to increase the quality of their workers by providing them with incentives, such as paid sick days? Everyone complains about the quality of their work, but what do they have to work for? Making your employees happy and rewarding them reasonably inspires them to work hard and consistently. This transpires to setting good examples for their families and children; the future of our workplace.

To conclude, I ask that you support the paid sick days bill this year.

Sincerely,

Kate Kearney

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