

9/3

2/10/2011

Senator \_\_\_\_\_, Representative \_\_\_\_\_, and the labor community,  
I am Marichris Carraga, a sophomore Nursing major at the University  
of Connecticut ~~and~~ in Storrs, CT and an employee at Redraunce  
House Inc. in Norwich, CT, which is my hometown. As a person  
who has seen first-hand the ~~disadvantages~~ imperativeness  
of paid sick days, I am testifying in support of SB913 An Act  
For Paid Sick Days.

Redraunce House Inc. is a non-profit organization whose mission is to ~~positively~~  
~~enhance~~ <sup>enhance</sup> the lives of adults dealing with mental illness, drug-dependency,  
and/or homelessness by providing them with life skills to lead to eventual, transitional,  
independent living. As a result, many of our residential facilities require  
24-hour care and intimate and direct contact with our "members" (clients).  
Therefore, health is of definite care and obvious priority from both the clinical,  
professional perspective and member-patient perspective.

Essentially, clinical staff plays a vital role in overseeing the health  
of the patients. In ~~Redraunce House~~, the residents, members interact  
with staff <sup>nearly</sup> every moment of the day, ~~thereby~~ increasing the risk of cross-  
contamination, particularly if the staff are sick, themselves. The level  
of intimate contact can range from preparing meals to administering  
medication directly to the patient. Thus, it is ideal that staff members  
who fall ill be excused with paid sick days to maintain ~~their~~ sanitary  
and germless ~~and~~ environments, particularly in a healthcare  
or <sup>service</sup> ~~service~~ setting.

Residential facilities are often arenas for infection as members  
who are ill are incredibly dependent on staff. ~~The~~ As a result,  
the risk of contracting an infection from working with a member

is incredibly increased for employees. The risk of exposure is extensive.  
~~Paid sick days are~~ SB 913 An Act For Paid Sick Days will  
undoubtedly allow for healthcare services to provide the quality  
care intended for its patients by ~~guarantee~~ lowering the  
chance of cross-contamination, reducing risks of illness/disease transmission,  
and keeping a clean, sanitary environment for all aspects of a  
clinical setting. Please vote for SB 913 An Act For Paid Sick Days  
and ~~for~~ guarantee quality healthcare settings. Thank you.

Marichris Carraga  
79 Mohegan Park Rd  
Norwich, CT 06360