

March 1, 2011

Labor and Public Employees Committee
Room 3800, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

To: Members of the Legislature's Labor and Public Employees Committee

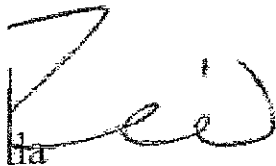
Subject: SB 913: An Act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees

We are writing to you today on behalf of the Legislative Committee, the Board of Directors and the entire membership of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce. The reason for our letter is to express opposition to SB 913, which would require Connecticut employers of 50 or more hourly and non-exempt workers to give a minimum of 1 hour paid time off for every 40 hours an employee works. Our membership believes that this bill represents a blanket approach that will negatively affect economic growth in Connecticut at the worst possible time.

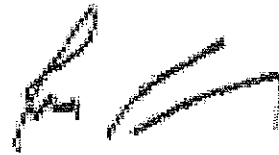
The Middlesex Chamber is a dynamic business organization with over 2,350 members that employ over 50,000 people. Our membership ranges from Fortune 500 companies to local micro businesses and each one of these businesses has a unique relationship with its employees. This paid sick leave proposal will undoubtedly make companies think twice about adding more jobs and will further increase already high costs when we need to be exploring ways to do just the opposite. In essence, mandating paid sick leave is a flawed "one size fits all" approach that the members of the Middlesex Chamber urge you to reject.

In closing, we would like to reiterate our opposition to Senate Bill 913. The members of our Chamber look forward to working with the General Assembly as we collectively deal with very challenging times. Thank you for the opportunity to be on the record.

Sincerely,



Rich Carella
Co Chair
Legislative Committee



Rick Parmelee
Co Chair
Legislative Committee