



SPORTING GOODS, INC.

37 Industrial Park Road
P.O. Box 236
Essex, CT 06426
(860) 767-9112
FAX 767-9121
www.goalsports.com

February 23, 2011

To: Members of the Labor Committee:

Re: *SB 913, An Act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees*

My name is Morton Reich and I own and operate two manufacturing companies in Essex, CT: Goal Sporting Goods, Inc. which manufactures athletic field equipment and Apco Products a wire fabricator/job shop. We employ more than 37 people (down from 88 three years ago).

I am writing to voice my opposition to SB-913, which would require Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave. This proposal will substantially increase our business costs and could force us to reevaluate the other benefits we provide our employees. Given the high rate of doing business in our State and notwithstanding the significant downturn in the economy coupled with the new Governor's intention to significantly raise our taxes along with the announced tax for the now bankrupt Unemployment Fund, this proposal greatly impacts our ability to remain viable.

SB-913, if enacted, will create another in a growing list of burdens that highlight Connecticut as a State that has gone beyond reasonable in the cost of doing business. Our company prides itself on building relationships based on fair and equitable standards which we apply equally to our customers, our vendors and to all those employed. Small business and the Legislatures' support of small business is the way out of economic distress. Please turn your attention to finding ways to help the small business owner and you will find success in your role as a Representative of 'ALL' of the people of Connecticut.

We urge you to reject this proposal and work with the business community to decrease government spending along with the government burdens on the private sector and to find ways to help small business control labor and workplace costs in Connecticut. I again encourage you to find ways to support and help business flourish according to the free enterprise system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Morton F. Reich".

Morton F. Reich
President