

9/13

Paula Broderick

Testimony in support of:

SB - 913 - AN ACT MANDATING EMPLOYERS PROVIDE PAID SICK LEAVE TO EMPLOYEES.

March 1, 2011

Senator Prague, Representative Zalaski and the members of the Labor Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I speak for myself as a rape survivor as well as for numerous others who have suffered the same trauma and crime that I have. When I fled my abuser, who had raped me and kept me captive for three days, I went into the Prudence Crandall safe house. I had to call out sick from work for numerous reasons, including the after effects of the rape I had suffered. I didn't have paid time off and lost income at a time when I desperately needed financial resources.

As a Shelter Advocate for the Prudence Crandall Center for nearly three years I have firsthand knowledge of other women having experienced the same situation that I did. And, if there are children involved, the children also suffer from the lack of financial resources during such a desperate time.

Everyone deserves the protection provided by a few paid sick days. I urge you to pass the paid sick days bill right away.

Thank you
Paula Broderick
Victim Survivor Advisory Council Member