

9/13

Sarah Laureano of East Hartford, CT, Testimony IN SUPPORT of SB-913 for Paid Sick Days

March 1, 2011

Testimony for the Labor Committee on the Paid Sick Days Legislation:

I am in favor of SB 913. I have seen the negative effects on both people's physical health as well as the negative effects on people's financial health.

At Manchester Hospital where I work I frequently see people with illnesses that have escalated without the proper care. Often times a worker without paid sick days will force themselves to go to work sick, rather than staying home to recover or going to the doctor. Without the proper rest or treatment illnesses can become much more severe, even to the point that the worker ends up in the hospital. Allowing workers paid sick days would allow these illnesses to be treated early on keeping people out of the hospital.

At home I also see the negative effects of not having paid sick days. My husband does not get a single paid sick day. This means when he is sick and misses work my family takes a financial hit.

People should not be forced to choose between their health and their financial stability. By providing a few paid sick days each year workers will not be forced to make that choice. Please support the paid sick days legislation.