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

Subject: Reject SB 913: Mandatory Paid Time Off

I am writing this letter to urge you to reject SB 913: Mandatory Paid Time Off because in my opinion, it is harmful to Connecticut jobs and business.

I am Human Resources Director at Ashcroft Inc, a manufacturer located in Stratford, CT. We employ over 400 people in Connecticut and are very proud of the fair and comprehensive benefits and compensation we provide to our employees. Many of our employees are covered by a Collective Bargaining Agreement that was fairly negotiated to provide comfortable wages and benefits that protect our workers and assure our ability to remain competitive. Mandating additional paid sick leave beyond what was negotiated puts our Company at serious financial risk and forces us and other similar businesses to reevaluate our business location and force a reduction in our employment.

We have a long history in Connecticut. Our business was founded in 1851. We are dedicated to the town of Stratford and the Bridgeport region. We have many very long service employees, who rely on us for steady employment year after year. We would have no choice but to reduce employment and other valued benefits in order to pay for such an expensive mandated benefit.

The state government and elected officials' continued failure to understand the competitive US and global business environment and failure to enact legislation that will help grow business and employment is a serious problem.

Once again, I urge you to reject SB913.

Sincerely,


Sheila Nevins

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