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February 23, 2011

REJECT - SB 913, An Act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees

To Members of the Labor Committee;

Camerota Truck Parts employs over 100 people in Connecticut (Enfield and North Haven) and a total of 150 throughout the Northeast. For 50 years we have been in the business of remanufacturing truck driveline components, truck service and parts distribution.

I am writing to voice my opposition to the Paid Sick Leave Mandate (Senate Bill SB-63). This proposal will substantially increase our business costs. **With the high costs of energy, workers comp taxes and health insurance – it is already challenging to operate in Connecticut. If our costs increase due to benefits mandates, such as Paid Sick Leave, our business will be forced to cost shift this expense to our employees and cutback existing benefits that are offered to employees.**

No other states have such a mandate. This proposal will make Connecticut a higher cost, less competitive and ultimately less desirable place to do business. Employers need the flexibility to design and negotiate their own benefit and time off policies that best meet the needs of their employees, business demands and productivity needs. Connecticut business does not need a one-size fits all policy that will make them less competitive. We need lawmakers to encourage growth and enhance our ability to expand and create jobs in Connecticut.

Especially in the current economic climate, adding more mandated business costs is another obstacle to job creation and economic stability and growth.

This is NOT the time to make it harder to do business in Connecticut.

I urge you to reject this proposal and work with the business community to control labor and workplace costs in Connecticut.

Sincerely,
CAMEROTA TRUCK PARTS



Steve Dufresne
Parts Manager
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