



February 28, 2011

Dear Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee:

I am writing again today in opposition to Senate Bill 913, *An Act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees*, which would require Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave.

This proposal will substantially increase business cost to our membership and could force them to reevaluate the other benefits they provide for their employees. The Tolland County Chamber of Commerce cares about our members and wants them to be able to keep and attract good people. Most businesses already offer sick time policies, as well as other benefits. However, benefit packages based on market conditions, competition, overall work flow, are often discussed and negotiated privately with employees prior to their hire.

As businesses struggling collectively through the uncharted waters of a lengthy recession, we appreciate the flexibility of the current law which enables us to negotiate our own policies without the state creating new additional mandates. We want businesses to stay in Connecticut. However, legislation like Senate Bill 913 sends the message that some of our state government would prefer we reconsider.

We urge you to **REJECT** Senate Bill 913 and work with Connecticut's employers to help reduce the cost of doing business in our state to, ultimately, create more jobs and attract other businesses.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Candice L. Corcione
Executive Director

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