



To: Members of the Labor Committee

I am the president of Founders Insurance Group, Inc., an independent insurance agency employing 33 people in Connecticut.

I am writing to oppose SB 913, An act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees. This proposal will substantially increase costs and, if passed, may cause us to reduce other benefits we provide to our employees. If Connecticut is truly "Open for Business" then why are we trying to burden businesses that are here with additional mandates and signal to companies that might consider Connecticut as a location that we have the most unfriendly business climate in the country? This mandate will just be another reason for employers to move their companies to other states.

If this committee wants to signal that Connecticut is in fact open for business then you need to stand up to powerful special interests and defeat this bill.

Businesses are already struggling with skyrocketing healthcare, energy and commodity costs while trying to remain competitive in a global economy. The state is experiencing high unemployment and record deficits. This bill will make both situations worse. **It's absolutely unbelievable that the state government would even consider such a mandate given the current economic climate!**

I urge you to reject this proposal and work with the business community to control the cost of doing business in Connecticut. Growing our economy is the only solution to many of the problems our state faces.

Respectfully,  
Dennis Dressel  
President  
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