

Testimony to the Labor Committee

March 1, 2011

Kyle LaVette, Berlin, CT

IN SUPPORT of SB 913

I support the paid sick days legislation.

There are many workers in Connecticut that do not receive paid sick days, and I am one of them. As a teacher who is paid hourly I do not get paid sick days. Without paid sick days I am unable to stay home when I am ill and still be able to pay my bills. This means I often end up going to work sick, risking spreading illness to students as well as fellow teachers. Providing paid sick days would allow me to stay home and get better, and keep my class room healthier.

Paid sick days also allow parents to stay home with sick children. No child should be forced to go school sick simply because their parent can't afford to stay home with them. Paid sick days would allow that child to stay home and get better. Paid sick days also keep those sick children out of school, preventing the spread of germs among classmates.

Providing paid sick days, doesn't cost an employer much, but would ensure that illnesses are not spread. By providing paid sick days employees would also be more motivated and more productive.

Please support the paid sick days legislation to ensure healthy schools for our children.

Kyle LaVette

65 Tree Hill Road

Berlin, CT 060637

9/23