

March 5, 2015

To the distinguished members of the Labor Committee:

I would like to testify in support of HB 6784 for paid sick days for more workers and HB 6932 for a Paid Family and Medical Leave program.

My name is Ann Carroll. I am a working mother from Milford with a 30 year old special needs son who has depended on Social Security disability benefits since he graduated high school.

As a part time associate for two State Farm agents - one in Stratford and one in East Haven - I struggle. I've been an associate in Stratford for 15 years, and in East Haven since June of last year. While I accrue one day of personal time each month, I myself do not have Paid Sick Days or Family and Medical Leave through my employer. I use my personal time to take my son to appointments and lessons, and there have been quite a few times when I've had no pay. If I had Paid Sick Days, I would be able to meet my financial needs.

Right now I don't have a backup savings because I've depleted it. I have a mutual fund that was set up a while ago, but it's not nearly enough, and if I had to take it out before I'm 69 and a half years old, I'd be penalized. God forbid I get sick. I need guaranteed Paid Family and Medical Leave in case something goes wrong.

I urge you to please pass HB 6784 and HB 6932. Please help all programs that can assist all families.

Thank you,
Ann Carroll
Milford