

March 5th, 2015

To Representative Tercyak, Senator Gomes and the members of the Labor Committee:

My name is Mimi Trimmier and I am from East Hartford. Not that long ago I was employed by Dunkin Donuts. While I was working at Dunkin Donuts, my mom became very sick and I had to take some time off of work to take care of her. My mom means everything to me. She has always been there for me. I wouldn't know what I would do if I lost her.

Once my mother was feeling a better from her illness, I returned to work. But when I arrived at work and proceeded to clock in for my shift, my supervisor told me that I was no longer employed at the store. I was very upset and couldn't understand why I couldn't have my job back. I was already behind on bills and had no extra money to fall back on. I needed my job very much and I did everything within my power to get my job back. I called the district manager and plead with him to please allow me to return to work and after some time they did but after I came back I never got the same hours as I did before until eventually it just was not worth it to keep working at that store anymore.

The bill to create a paid family leave system in Connecticut will have an enormous impact on many families in Connecticut. If this system already existed when my mom fell ill, I would have been able to take the necessary time off from work without being worried about all the unpaid bills that were accumulating. It also would have meant that once my mother got better, I would have been able to go back to work and would have been protected from getting fired because of the choice I had to make to take care of her.

Paid Family and Medical Leave is very important because we all have family who gets sick and we should not have to be punished for taking care of them.

Please pass HB 6932 to create Paid Family Leave for families in Connecticut.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mimi Trimmier