

March 5, 2015

To the distinguished members of the Labor Committee:

**My name is Kyle Linehan. I live in New Haven, and I've been a cook for eight years. I urge you to pass HB 6784 and HB 6933 for paid sick days for more workers and enacting fair scheduling.**

I worked as a sous chef at a restaurant in New Haven for almost two years, and I would never have a fixed schedule. I would be told when I had to work next at the end of each shift, and I would never know how long my shifts would be. There were days I would go there, and I would be there for three hours or fourteen hours. At one point I worked for seventeen days straight. On the seventeenth day, I overslept and got into an argument with one of the managers. I ended up getting sent home. The rest of my life played second to whatever I was being told for my schedule.

Last spring, I was assaulted on the way home from work. I tried to call out the next day because I was in extreme pain and had a black eye, but they told me that I had to come in. My employer didn't have to give me any paid sick time because the business had less than fifty employees. At my current job, if I was really sick and had to call out, I know that I wouldn't be able to pay my cellphone bill or pay rent.

**We need you to pass HB 6784 and HB 6933 so that people living paycheck to paycheck like myself can feel secure that unforeseen events won't put them out of house and home.**

Kyle Linehan  
New Haven