



# CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

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Testimony of Lori J. Pelletier, President  
Connecticut AFL-CIO  
Before the Labor and Public Employees Committee  
February 16, 2016

Senator Gomes and Representative Tercyak and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee, on behalf of the over 200,000 union members and their families in our great state we present written testimony in favor of:

**S.B. 66 (RAISED) AN ACT EXTENDING PAID SICK LEAVE TO SCHOOL PARAPROFESSIONALS. (LAB)**

Paraprofessionals are vital to our education system and without their dedication and love many of our most needy students would not be successful. In return for their devotion, these workers are often the least paid and the most overlooked. Yet because of the love they have for their students they roll up their sleeves and do whatever it takes for their students to succeed. The simple act of extending paid FMLA to these critical classroom professionals is a small token acknowledging the vital role and the value we place in this profession.

Thank you for holding this public hearing.

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