

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you in support of Raised Bill #262 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT AND ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY SERVICE.

With the State of Connecticut lacking the piece outlining accordance with the Federal FMLA Regulations, ("FMLA Guidance: Interaction between new federal FMLA regulations and the CT FMLA Regulations"), we are, in essence, allowing private sector employers to decide at their will whether to allow coverage under FMLA for military send offs, returns, etc. Without the adjoining 'piece' connecting the State law to the Federal Law signed in 2008, there is no recourse for military families.

This proverbial crack in the floor will no doubt hurt CT families. As you are well aware, CT is home to a very large population of Reserve and Guard personnel, and with the current state of affairs in our world, we all know that there will be multiple deployments going forward. Not allowing CT residents FMLA leave for send off and return ceremonies – or for short term leaves while stationed at bases outside of our state- will certainly be a considering factor for our military personnel when considering where to put down their roots.

I urge you to support SB 262 and send a message to our military families that Connecticut recognizes their sacrifices and will do all that we can to assist them in their time of selfless service to our Country.

Sincerely,

Lori

<https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/wgwkstnd/fmla.htm>

http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/NDAA_fmla.htm

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" No one, no one should ever pass an American in uniform without saying 'Thank you, we are grateful', always mindful that they are prepared to risk all of their dreams so that all of us can reach and realize ours." -William Cohen