

Members of the Labor Committee;

It is with considerable interest that I am asking a few minutes your attention on the current issues of paid family and medical leave topics. We in the United States of America, and in Connecticut we are living in and being subjected to a worse circumstance than in many of the developing or underdeveloped countries. It is a shame, embarrassment and immediate action is needed to correct this.

During my personal and business life I have lived in over 5 countries, and studied the social economical system of many other countries. Once again we are lagging, we need change.

Let me tell you in Eastern Europe for example if a mother give a births to a newborn even during the communist era they were allowed to take 3 to 9 month of paid maternity leave of absence. Currently that has changed to 1-3 year for the first child and additional 1-2 year for the second child for any child there after is is max to about 3 month on the average. During this time the mother receives 70% of their salary.

In other parts of Europe they have also similar systems, as I have just describes.

When someone gets sick because of some illness and has a doctor note, they will receive 80% salary for up to 45 days on the average, depending on which country one is living in.

So it just begs the question how come we the "most advanced or one of the most advanced country in the world we do not have any similar laws?"

Also please make sure that while you are addressing this issue take into consideration that many part time employees, since more and more companies are opting in the US to hire people part time.

I have held positions as a blue collar employee, other normal employee, assistant/manager positions, or executive. I can attest to the fact that in the US we have the weakest or the worse system in place and a change is urgently needed.

Here is the US at one time I had two part time job working 70 hours weekly, making about 690 dollars, (that is nice) of course it was not enough but it was something, I got sick for 10 days, and I was not getting any money. Please tell me that is even close to fairness, never mind that someone works 70 hours and makes 690 dollars, that is a story by itself. If you get sick you make nothing as part time employee. But at the end of month you need to pay all your bills.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration, and I can say that I do speak on behalf of many people, I and we support SB 221! and please pass it.

Sincerely
Bela Bartis J