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Testimony on S.B. No.1 and H.B. 5003  
Family Leave Bills  
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The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford supports these bills, which would provide further support to employees and their families.

Currently FMLA does not guarantee paid leave, and steps should be taken to bridge this gap. A thoughtful, beneficial approach to care for the employee means to also care for the family, and lessen the stress of unpaid leave. These bill would especially support families who live paycheck to paycheck when a temporary leave of work to care for a newborn or a dying family member would financially burden them.

Family is a central social institution that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. How we organize our society directly affects human dignity, the foundation of a moral vision for society. Catholic social teaching has as its objective the creation of a society that is more worthy of the inestimable dignity of every human being. With processes in place, which these bills provide, the family unit is strengthened and the common good of our society is enhanced.

The Office urges The Labor and Public Employees Committee to support these bills.

Lynn Campbell  
Executive Director