



Real Possibilities in

Connecticut

Labor and Public Employees Committee

February 14, 2019

Testimony of Carol Ann Feldmann in Support of

SB 1 An Act Concerning Paid Family and Medical Leave and HB 5003 An Act Implementing a Paid Family and Medical Leave Program

Dear Senator Kushner, Representative Porter, and Committee members:

I am submitting written testimony to your Committee to encourage the passage of [SB 1](#), An Act Concerning Paid Family and Medical Leave and [HB 5003](#), An Act Implementing a Paid Family and Medical Leave Program.

Over the years, I had to manage the care of my disabled sister and mother which had a definite impact on my family and financial stability. Caregiving is a 24/7 job which is stressful, unrelenting and overwhelming. The responsibility of coordinating doctor visits, managing two households and coordinating home care assistance is never ending.

On a number of occasions, I had to take extended periods of unpaid leave from my job in order to attend to and coordinate their care. The pressure of worrying about my job security and making ends meet only added to the pressure I was already under.

I have no regrets whatsoever about taking care of my family members, but think that Caregivers should be recognized and appreciated for all their efforts. Caregivers learn very quickly that the onset of a debilitating illness will change their lives forever in both good ways and bad. They are forced to come to grips with a new normal and make adjustments very quickly. The paid family and medical leave proposals that you are considering will go a long way to relieve Caregivers anxiety about their job and financial security. I urge you to give this legislation careful and thoughtful consideration.

Thank you.

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