

Labor and Public Employees Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-220

AN ACT CONCERNING CLARIFYING THE APPEALS PROCESS UNDER THE

Title: PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE STATUTES.

Vote Date: 3/19/2024

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/27/2024

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Labor and Public Employees Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The reason for this bill is to clarify the appeals process for Paid Family and Medical Leave denial cases through the Superior Court. At present, there is no clear process for such claims after a DOL decision on an initial appeal, and this bill would define the process for handling such denial claims.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Danté Bartolomeo, Commissioner, CT Department of Labor: testified in support of this bill and stated that the current appeals process for PFML denials is not adequately explained in current statute. She further stated that, due to experience, there is a necessity to clarify the appeals process between the PFMLA, CT DOL, and the CT Superior Court. She requested a slight change to the bill's language, that it go into effect immediately, instead of on July 1st, to handle all possible cases as soon as possible.

Erin Choquette, CEO, CT Paid Family Medical Leave Authority: offered testimony in support of this bill and stated that while individuals can appeal denials of Paid Family Medical Leave first to the Department of Labor and then again to the Superior Court, there is no for the process after DOL renders its decision, and no set standard of review for the Superior Court. She stated this bill explains the process for such appeals, and as such is necessary.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None provided.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None provided.

Reported by: Cameron Clarke

Date: 04/01/2024