

March 12, 2020

Dear Members of Congress,

**We, the undersigned organizations, urge you to co-sponsor and advocate for swift passage of the Paid Sick Days for Public Health Emergencies and Personal and Family Care Act (S. 3415/H.R. 6150).**

The spread of COVID-19 has highlighted the economic consequences faced by working people when they lack access to paid sick days. In the United States, over 32 million workers lack access to paid sick days, and for low-income workers it's even worse. While 93 percent of the highest-wage workers have access to paid sick days, only 30 percent of the lowest wage workers do. Workers in jobs that require frequent contact with the public, including those in food preparation and service, personal home care, and child care are among the least likely to have paid sick days and the most likely to be unable to afford to take unpaid time away from work.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have recommended that individuals who may have been exposed to COVID-19 self-quarantine for 14 days. But for people without access to paid sick days, this is a near impossibility. The New York Times Editorial Board acknowledged this, writing "[We Are Ignoring One Obvious Way to Fight the Coronavirus.](#)"

Building off of the Healthy Families Act, **the Public Health Emergencies and Personal and Family Care Act ensures that working people have access to fourteen days of paid sick leave for use during the COVID-19 outbreak or any future public health emergency.** This includes time for quarantine for those who have been exposed, for treatment and isolation for those who contract the virus, and for taking care of an ill loved one. It also covers lost income in the event of workplace or school closings.

This bill also acknowledges that people need time off from work when there isn't a public health emergency, and provides up to seven paid sick and safe days annually to recover from short-term illnesses, access preventive care, care for a sick loved one, or seek assistance related to domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

We urge all members of Congress to co-sponsor this bill and advocate for its swift passage. Our society is only as healthy as its most vulnerable members. We all have a stake in ensuring paid sick days for public health emergencies and for personal and family care.

Sincerely,

1,000 Days  
9to5 Colorado  
9to5 Georgia  
9to5, National Association of Working Women  
A Better Balance  
Allied Progress  
All Our Kin  
American Association of University Women  
American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Psychiatric Women's Caucus  
American Public Health Association  
Americans for Democratic Action (ADA)  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO  
Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence  
Autistic Self Advocacy Network  
Breastfeeding Task Force of Greater Los Angeles  
Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition (BCAC)  
California Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Caring Across Generations  
Center for Economic and Policy Research  
Center for Latino Progress - CPRF  
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)  
Center for LGBTQ Economic Advancement & Research  
Center for Popular Democracy  
Center for Public Policy Priorities  
Central Florida Jobs with Justice  
Child Welfare League of America  
Children's Defense Fund  
Citizen Action of New York  
Coalition For Social Justice  
Coalition of Labor Union Women  
Coalition on Human Needs  
Collaborative Center for Justice  
Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)  
Communications Workers of America (CWA)  
Connecticut Alliance for Retired Americans  
Connecticut Citizen Action Group  
Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance  
Connecticut Employment Lawyers Assoc.  
Connecticut Voices for Children  
Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF)  
Demos  
Economic Opportunity Institute  
Economic Policy Institute  
Equal Rights Advocates  
Fairfield County's Community Foundation  
Family Values @ Work  
First Focus Campaign for Children

Florida Black Women's Roundtable  
Forward Together  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
Greater New York Labor-Religion Coalition  
Hawaii Children's Action Network  
Health Justice Innovations, LLC  
Indivisible  
ISALAH – MN  
Islamic Relief USA  
Justice for Migrant Women  
Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice  
KWH Law Center for Social Justice and Change  
Legal Aid at Work  
Livingston, Adler, Pulda, Meiklejohn & Kelly  
Maine Women's Lobby Education Fund  
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger  
MomsRising  
Montana Budget & Policy Center  
Mothering Justice  
NAACP  
NARAL Pro-Choice America  
NARAL Pro-Choice Connecticut  
NASW-NJ  
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities  
National Association of Social Workers Connecticut Chapter  
National Center for Law and Economic Justice  
National Center for Lesbian Rights  
National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment  
(National PLACE)  
National Coalition of 100 Black Women Central Ohio Chapter  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Consumers League  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Disability Rights Network  
National Domestic Violence Hotline  
National Domestic Workers Alliance  
National Education Association (NEA)  
National Employment Law Project  
National Employment Lawyers Association  
National Hispanic Council on Aging  
National Immigration Law Center  
National Institute for Reproductive Health (NIRH)  
National Low Income Housing Coalition  
National Military Family Association  
National Organization for Women  
National Partnership for Women & Families  
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence  
National WIC Association  
National Women's Law Center

Nebraska Appleseed  
NJ Citizen Action and NJ Time to Care Coalition  
NJ State Industrial Union Council  
North Carolina Justice Center  
Ohio Domestic Violence Network  
Opportunity Youth United  
Paid Leave for All  
Paid Leave for the United States (PL+US)  
Partnership for America's Children  
Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies  
PathWays PA  
People's Action  
Poder Latinx  
Point Acupressure  
Public Justice Center  
RACCE  
ReproJobs  
Restaurant Opportunities Center of Pennsylvania (ROC Pennsylvania)  
Restaurant Opportunities Centers (ROC) United  
RESULTS  
SEIU  
SEIU 32BJ  
SisterSong: National Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective  
Southern New England United Church of Christ  
SPAN Parent Advocacy Network  
SparkAction  
Sunrise Movement  
The Arc of the United States  
The Diaper Bank of Connecticut  
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights  
TIME'S UP Now  
Trust for America's Health  
Union for Reform Judaism  
United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries  
United for Respect  
United Steelworkers  
UsAgainstAlzheimer's  
Virginia Campaign For A Family Friendly Economy  
Voices for Progress  
Women Employed  
Women's Law Project  
Workers Defense Project  
Workplace Fairness  
YWCA USA  
ZERO TO THREE