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Senator Kushner, Rep. Sanchez, Senator Sampson, Rep. Weir, and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 7, a much-needed update to Connecticut's paid sick leave law.

Quite simply, nobody should have to choose between their health and their job.

In 2011, Connecticut took a crucial step to ensure that by passing our first paid sick leave law. While that law has been a game-changer for people and families, it unfortunately only applies to an estimated 12% of our state's workforce.

In the years since, our neighboring states of New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts have all passed similar but more expansive laws. By passing SB 7, we can help ensure more members of Connecticut's workforce have the right to take time off when they are ill without worrying about missing rent, or having their heat shut off.

Unexpected illnesses or family emergencies can happen to anyone. When tragedy or the common cold strikes, we should make a commitment to Connecticut workers that they will have a sufficient and guaranteed number of paid sick days when they need them.

For Connecticut's workers and a healthier state, I strongly urge the passage of SB 7.

All the best,



Sean Scanlon  
State Comptroller