

Dear Early Childhood Committee,

I want Minnesota to assure paid leave for new parents for the financial security and health of their family. Young families and single parents are in an impossible position when they give birth, adopt, or need to help an ill family member. Paid leave funded by them and their employers through a state pool would also stabilize the work force for small employers, relieve individual employers of the burden of self-funding, and make Minnesota an even more attractive place to do business and attract workers.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue,

Cathy Waldhauser
Golden Valley, MN 55422

Dear Members of the Early Childhood Committee,

I am writing in support of the Paid Family Medical Leave Bill (HF1200). There are many great reasons this should become law in Minnesota. A few that impact young children are:

- Improves maternal and child health
- Increases paternal involvement in children's lives
- Provides economic security during life changing events

Whether we are white, black or brown, all of us deserve to care for our families without risk of losing our jobs. People across the state agree, it is past time to level up and create this insurance program for Minnesotans.

Respectfully,
Sarah Mullins
St Paul, MN 55104

Hello,

My name is James Jaffe and I am a resident of Richfield, MN. I'm contacting you in order to voice my support of the Paid Family & Medical Leave (HF1200 and SF1205).

Last year, my sister experienced complications during her pregnancy and both her and her daughter were required to be in the hospital for an extended time. Luckily she worked for an employer that valued her as a person and allowed her paid time off in order for her to recover and bond with her daughter.

Many employers in Minnesota do not extend this benefit to their employees. We should not need to rely on the whims of our employers as to whether or not Minnesota

residents have a chance to safely give birth and spend those vital first few weeks with their children. Please pass HF1200 and SF1205.

Thank you,
James Jaffe
Richfield, MN 55423

Dear Early Childhood Committee,
I am writing in favor of passing the Paid Family & Medical Leave legislation (HF1200 & SF 1205). I worked in Public Health/ Maternal Child Health for 42 years and know the importance of parental leave both after a baby's birth and when a child is ill. Babies and children require the early care by their parents for their physical and emotional development. Research has shown that for every dollar invested in early childhood, there is a return on investment of five dollars. However, this is much more than an economic issue/ future workforce issue. This is an investment in our future citizens. Thank you for your support of this important issue!
Marilyn Deling
Rochester, MN

Hello,

I am contacting you to let you know that I fully support the following bills (HF1200 and SF1205), and I know most of my family, friends, and colleagues do to.

These bills are crucial to supporting our community and businesses. It allows improved parental bonding (vital to development), support for our seniors, support for personal health needs, and very importantly it supports equity for all. It allows women to stay in the workforce. It allows men and women to equally share in childcare. It benefits all of society by supporting all ages, races, socioeconomic, and urban/rural.

I want to see Minnesota come into the 21st at century and supporting our communities, and these bills can really help everyone!

Thank you,

Kallie Doeden
Richfield, MN 55423