



Sowers of Justice
A Catholic Legislative Network
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ACTION ALERT

Ask Representative Atkins to to support House File 612 - The Healthy Families, Healthy Workplace Act

March 2009

Dear AM :

Background

Did you know 41% of Minnesotans don't have any paid sick days, that's over 1 million workers and most of them are low wage workers. 85% of people who work in food service can not stay home when they are ill without losing pay!

Healthy Families, Healthy Work Place Act (House File 612), a bill that would allow all Minnesota workers to earn paid sick days, is getting it's first hearing at the state legislature this Wednesday afternoon in the Labor & Consumer Protection Division.

Parents shouldn't have to choose between taking care of a sick kid and a day of pay. Especially for low-wage workers, one lost day of pay can mean the difference between making rent and falling short. People should be able to work hard AND take care of themselves and their families. Healthy workers are critical to a productive and vibrant economy. By providing paid sick days, employers would benefit from reduced turnover, higher productivity, and reducing the spread of contagion in the workplace.

Paid sick can be used:

- To care for an employee's own illness or physical or mental condition
- To obtain a medical diagnosis or related treatment or to obtain preventive care
- To care for a family member for any of the above reasons
- For an absence necessary due to domestic violence

We want workplaces to value healthy families. Americans believe that hard work should be rewarded by fairness in the workplace. A fair paid sick days policy supports healthy workers and healthy families. Please ask your legislators to support House File 612 - The Healthy Families, Healthy Workplace Act.

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Recommended Action

Please contact Representative Joe Atkins at 651-296-4192 or via email at rep.joe.atkins@house.mn

*FFI: Contact Patrick Ness at 651-291-4484
or nessp@archspm.org*

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