



MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION

S.1208 (Parker) / A.8585 (Richardson)

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to enacting the "paid sick leave act".

The Capital Region Chamber, representing 2,800 businesses and organizations from throughout the Capital Region that employ more than 150,000 area residents, opposes S.1208/A.8585. This bill would require all employers to provide paid sick leave to employees. Under this proposal, paid sick leave would accrue at the rate of one hour for every twenty hours worked by an employee.

The Chamber believes that this legislation would have both direct and indirect costs to businesses. If adopted, the bill would increase the cost of goods and services for consumers and limit the ability of businesses to grow in the Capital Region.

Growing private sector jobs is key to the Capital Region's economic future. Regulations and mandates, such as this proposed "paid sick leave act", have a significant impact on attracting and retaining businesses. The Chamber's position is that employers are best suited for determining the terms and conditions of employment based on their financial condition and competitive position.

The Chamber strongly encourages the state to pursue policies that make the Capital Region more competitive and lead to job creation. This proposal would move the state's economy in the wrong direction.

For these reasons, the Capital Region Chamber opposes this legislation.