



MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION

Proposed Local Law No. "C" for 2018

By: Messrs. Bullock, Reinhardt, A. Joyce, Fein, Higgins, and Ms. Lekakis

"The Albany County Paid Sick Leave Act"

A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE PAID SICK TIME TO QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES WITHIN ALBANY COUNTY

The Capital Region Chamber, representing more than 2,400 area businesses and organizations that employ more than 150,000 area residents, strongly opposes proposed Local Law No. "C" for 2018 which would require paid sick leave to qualified employees within Albany County.

Growing private sector jobs is key to Albany County's economic future. Imposing new regulations and mandates on employers, such as this proposed "Albany County Paid Sick Leave Act", have costs and are an impediment to attracting, retaining and growing jobs. The Chamber's longstanding position is that employers are best suited for determining the terms and conditions of employment, including benefits such as paid sick leave, based on the individual employer's financial condition, business sector and competitive position.

The Chamber believes that if this proposal was enacted, Albany County's economy would be stifled, job creation would decline, and Albany County businesses would be at a competitive disadvantage. We also must not ignore the impact that this proposal will have on consumers and taxpayers. Albany County businesses will have no choice but to reduce their workforce and/or pass on the cost of this new mandate to consumers. This proposal will cause some businesses to close and force some consumers to other surrounding counties. This will without question reduce Albany County's sales tax revenue. In short, this proposal will negatively impact the county, businesses, taxpayers, consumers and job seekers.

Albany County's for-profit and non-profit employers cannot sustain another costly mandate. The Chamber strongly encourages Albany County to pursue policies that make it more competitive and lead to job creation. Additional mandates, such as this proposal, would move the county in the wrong direction.

For the above stated reasons, the Capital Region Chamber strongly opposes this proposed local law.

At the Center of New York's Tech Valley
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