



March 8, 2017

Hon. Patty Murray
U.S. Senator
154 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Rosa DeLauro
U.S. Representative
2413 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Murray and Representative DeLauro,

As an organization committed to helping all children thrive in school and in life, we applaud you for leading the fight to ensure Americans have access to paid sick days from their jobs. Paid sick days improve the health of children, reduce family stress, and increase financial stability for working families. **With this letter, we officially endorse your legislation, The Healthy Families Act**, to guarantee up to 7 days of job protected paid sick days per year for all employees in the U.S. who work for businesses with 15 or more employees.

Common Sense Kids Action, the policy arm of the national non-profit Common Sense, will list your bill as **"For Kids" on our legislative ratings**, sending a strong message to parents and teachers across the country that paid sick days are good for kids. Research shows that:

- Parents with paid sick days are 20% less likely to send a sick child to school.
- When parents are able to take days off to care for their sick children, those children recover faster and reduce the risk of infecting classmates.
- More than one in four parents of a child who suffers from asthma (28%) have missed one of their child's medical appointments because they were not able to take time off work.

Sick children need their parents or guardians to help them get well, either by staying home or visiting a doctor. And that takes time away from the workday. But at least 43 million working Americans, many of whom are low-income and can least afford to forgo any pay, do not have access to paid sick days, unfairly forcing them to choose between a paycheck or their children.

Nationwide guaranteed paid sick days will directly contribute to the long-term success of America's children, will help businesses, and will improve economic fairness in our country. We look forward to working with you to advance your legislation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jim Steyer

/s/ Danny Weiss

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