



Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon

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**April 2nd 2013**

Representative Doherty, Chair  
Representative Barton, Vice-Chair  
Representative Kenemer, Vice-Chair  
House Committee on Business and Labor  
Oregon Legislative Assembly

MEASURE: HB 3390  
EXHIBIT: 34  
H BUSINESS & LABOR  
DATE: 4.3.2013 PAGES: 1  
SUBMITTED BY: Sokho Eath

**Re: HB 3390**

**Dear Chair Doherty, Vice-Chair Barton, Vice-Chair Kenemer and Members of the Committee:**

The Asian and Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) is a statewide, grassroots organization, uniting Asians and Pacific Islanders to achieve social justice. We envision an equitable world where Asians and Pacific Islanders are fully engaged in the social, economic and political issues that affect us.

We value the wellbeing of our families and the practical benefits to employers and workers in ensuring people have the time to recover from sickness or see a doctor when needed. We recognize that working sick doesn't work for anyone - especially parents who have the added responsibility of caring for a child's cold and our newest immigrants and refugees who are often balancing multiple jobs. This is an inequity we have the power to address.

HB 3390 comes at a moment where paid sick time is becoming a practice accepted by Oregonians across the state. Earlier in March, the City of Portland passed an ordinance that will give employees an hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked, and up to five days earned sick time per year within the city boundaries. This proposed ordinance will take effect only if the Oregon State Legislature does not pass a statewide policy on Paid Sick Time.

More and more members of our community are working in low and minimum wage jobs that risk losing income and even their job when they get sick. Through APANO's research and analysis, we know that many of these workers are Asian and Pacific Islanders who work in all major industries, with even more who work in restaurants, hair/nail salons, social service and other jobs that are in constant contact with people. Many of our communities and families are also experiencing persistent poverty. For example, portions of the Pacific Islander community are Oregon's fastest growing community at over 68% in the last decade. Yet this community problematically experiences Oregon's highest poverty rates at over 40%. Adversely, most families have multiple individuals who hold such jobs that offer no protections when time is needed to care for themselves or others. 40% of all private-sector workers and 80% of low-income workers have no paid sick days from their job - not one.

Everybody gets sick, but not everyone gets the time they need to recover or care for sick family members - and it affects all of us. APANO support Earned Sick Leave because it is very simple and very effective - one of those policies that benefit everyone involved: healthier workers, co-workers, customers and businesses.

**Vote YES on HB 3390**

**Sokho Eath**

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