

February 16, 2015

To: Senate Workforce and House Business and Labor Committees
From: Amy Kleiner
Principal, Sunnyside Environmental School, Portland
Re: Support of SB454 and HB2005

Dear Chairs Dembrow and Holvey and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony. My name is Amy Kleiner, principal of Sunnyside Environmental School for the last 3.5 years. I am responsible for over 600 children. I am also, the mother of two young children.

As a mother, I am grateful that I have a job that includes paid sick days. When my children are sick I am able to tend to them. Paid sick days are valuable in my life.

As a principal, I am responsible for the education and protection of every child at my school. It is of the utmost importance that children come to school healthy. It is a matter of public health. Children cannot concentrate when they are sick. Secondly, other children and teachers get exposed to illness that then impacts their ability to attend school and in the teachers case their ability to do their jobs.

We in Portland appreciate that parents now have the ability to take a paid sick day when necessary to care for their child. I respectfully ask the Committees to pass the paid sick days bill for all Oregonians so that so that parents across Oregon have the same benefit to care for their children and help secure the public health of our schools.

Thank you for your time and consideration.