

Chair Lively and Members of the House Early Education and Family Support Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective on HB 3087.

My name is Mo Young. I live in Eugene and have worked for a local government agency for the last 8 years. When my partner and I adopted our daughter (at the age of 2), I qualified for 12 weeks of unpaid family leave but I couldn't afford to take unpaid time off work. Instead, I took the 4 weeks of vacation hours that I had saved up and then went back to work.

Four weeks was not enough time to bond with my new daughter. She also had to enter childcare sooner than I would have liked because there was no one at home to take care of her during the day (both parents work). Bonding and attachment are especially important when a child is adopted - it is an integral ingredient to a successful adoptive family unit.