

I am very concerned and strongly oppose HB 3031.

I have researched this and it would have a tremendous financial impact on my small business. Imposing it would force me to look for ways to make up for the additional cost, up to and including employing fewer people and passing the costs on to my customers as I had to with other recent measures like paid time off.

I am desperately trying to increase my employees wages and am getting close to providing health insurance (I employ roughly 18 people 28 to 32 hours a week). If this bill passes, my wage increases will slow down, and the time frame for getting them health insurance would be extended or my contribution lowered.

Currently, only six other states and D.C. have enacted family and medical leave programs. Although the majority of these states require the program to be funded only through employee contributions, HB 3031 requires that the employer pay 50 percent of cost.

Again, I strongly oppose this house bill and pray that common sense will prevail.

Thank you for considering my concerns

Danny R Barnett