

March 25, 2019

To: The House Business and Labor Committee and the Senate Workforce Committee

From: Summer Boslaugh

Re: Support of HB 3031

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Summer Boslaugh and I live in SE Portland.

I took 3 months off after the birth of my daughter. Because I did not have paid family leave I used all my vacation and sick leave and all my short-term disability. With all of this time I did not have enough to cover my salary for the full 3 months. Fortunately my husband and I could afford for me to be making less money during that time. However, when I returned to work I had no sick leave or vacation time. I also maxed out my short-term disability. Fortunately nothing happened that required me to use any of that time. I also had a very flexible manager who worked with me to ease back into work part-time at first. I know many people are not as lucky as I am to have the resources to cover leave without pay and the flexibility in their workplace.

Additionally, my dad has Parkinson's disease and I use sick time periodically to take care of him and give my stepmom respite. I have sufficient sick time which I use for this purpose, however if I or someone else in my family had a significant illness I may not have as much sick time as needed.

Many parents and families are not as fortunate as I am and aren't able to take time off to care for themselves, a new baby, or parents at the end of life. This puts their families and their jobs at risk. The U.S. is one of the only countries in the world that does not provide paid family medical leave for workers. This puts employers, employees, and the economy at a disadvantage.

Please support paid family leave for all families. It is right for families and for our economy.

Sincerely,  
Summer Boslaugh