

Dear Testimony Business and Labor,

Paid family and medical leave benefit bill would create a huge hardship for a small business such as our rural grocery store. If we had employees out on paid leave it would create a situation where we would not be able to afford to hire someone to take their place. We can only afford 8 to 9 employees full and part time employees. There is no way we can afford to pay additional employees while our current employees are on paid leave. We treat our employees well and help them out in many ways, but there simply is no way a small business can operate paying twice for the same amount of work. Also think of the extra employment taxes we would have to pay. We would have to hold their jobs for them and in an area like this what type of person is going to want a job for an unknown duration knowing they will not have a job when the regular employee returns. B the time they were trained, the regular would probably be back. That is totally unrealistic.

Please think about those of us who are living and providing jobs for people in the real world, not some fantasy world before you vote for HB 3031

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Ann Huffman
27447 Pine Creek Rd
John Day, OR 97845
ahuffman@ortelco.net