

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am a retired teacher and small business owner from Dallas, writing in support of HB 3031, the FAMLI Equity Act.

Paid family and medical leave will be good for Oregon families, and that is good for our state. Washington, California, and four others have decided to have state-run paid family leave insurance. Details can vary, but I know why it will be important to do this. Many employees do not have any paid leave yet, but I did.

At age 89, my father had multiple health issues and needed to move to assisted living. I took time off from work to help him -- physically and emotionally. Later when Dad went to the hospital and then the nursing center, I traveled to be with him again. My job was not in jeopardy, because I was a teacher. The contract with the school district provided for specific amounts of medical leave. It could be used for my own health or for my family.

Passing this act will make a world of difference for Oregonians in all kinds of families.

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