

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Gregory Hill, from Portland OR, and I am writing to you in support of HB 3031, the FAMLI Equity Act.

I am a professor and recently suffered a severe stroke that had, initially, quite severe consequences. My university was generous enough to give me an extended leave with pay that allowed me time to focus on my recovery. Without that time, I am quite sure I would never have been able to return to work and my ability to contribute to the care of my family would have been severely diminished.

Because of my experience with this health crisis I am very aware of how many people in our state are vulnerable to the outcomes I described: job loss (and its consequent loss to our economy) and loss of contribution to family (with the attendant costs to our society in the form of tax-funded assistance). Aside from those impacts, there is a very strong moral and ethical argument for this bill: we owe it to our fellow citizens to take care of them, particularly to shield them from the consequences of health crises.

Please support this bill and help us, voters and taxpayers, to support our fellow Oregonians.

Best wishes,

Gregory Hill