



CHILD CARE LAW CENTER®

April 6, 2016

Los Angeles Economic Development Committee
c/o Office of the City Clerk
200 N. Spring St., Room 470
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attn: Adam Lid, Legislative Assistant

Re: Council File 14-1371- Follow-up Policy Elements for a Citywide Minimum Wage

Honorable Councilmembers,

The Child Care Law Center strongly supports a Los Angeles citywide paid sick days law. The Child Care Law Center supports parents and child care professionals in accessing good, affordable child care.

We urge the Economic Development Committee to advance a paid sick days law that provides robust protections for LA workers that are on par with their counterparts in San Francisco, Oakland, Emeryville, and Santa Monica.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, a person with an uncomplicated case of the flu may be sick for three to seven days and may be contagious for five to seven days after becoming ill. A local law that expands upon California's minimal three-day requirement is necessary to guarantee that LA families, workplaces, and communities are healthy and productive.

It is crucial that the city adopt a law that allows workers to use their sick time to care for family members (as is provided for under the state law), **and** adopts a broader and more appropriate definition of "family member" to include any individual related to the worker by "blood or affinity." The federal government has adopted this definition in its recent executive order requiring federal contractors to provide their employees with paid sick time.

Economic data from Seattle, Connecticut, San Francisco, and New York City, where workers earn 5 to 9 paid sick days per year, show these economies have thrived since the passage of paid sick days. Surveys of San Francisco and Connecticut employers found that they did not experience negative effects as a result of their respective paid sick days laws. **Please act quickly to pass a strong paid sick days law that guarantees workers a sufficient number of sick days and the ability to care for family members who are related by blood or affinity.**

Sincerely,

Kim Kruckel, Esq.
Executive Director