

February 12, 2023



Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Chair
Rep. Andrew Takuya Garrett, Vice Chair
Committee on Labor & Government Relations
Tuesday, February 14, 2023
9:30 am
via Video Conference

RE: HB1202 Relating to Paid Sick Leave (SUPPORT with Amendments)

Dear Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Garrett & Committee Members,

Chamber of Sustainable Commerce offers this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1202, which requires employers to provide a minimum amount of paid sick leave to employees and supplemental paid sick leave to employees under certain public health emergency conditions.

As small business owners who believe we can strengthen our economy without hurting employees, consumers or the environment, we urge this committee to vote in favor of passing HB1202, because we recently experienced just how inter-dependent our businesses are in keeping our workforces and customers healthy. "Safety nets" for workers were important to all of our shared economic sustainability – an important reminder that our businesses do not operate in vacuums or silos. Some of us are still dealing with supply chain backlog which underscores how far reaching our reliance on a healthy workforce extends, including companies several links away.

In addition, recent pandemic safeguards revealed was how public health policies impacted our workers: having a four year-old with a mild runny nose soon required a parent to miss work and stay home with their child because leaving a four year-old home alone may have put the child in harms way.

Therefore, we ask that this committee **amend § -3 "Use of paid sick leave"**, to add another triggering event that would allow an employee to use paid sick leave under this statute: "employee's need to provide care for a sick household member/ dependent in the case where not remaining home with the sick child or adult could reasonably result in Child Protective Services or Adult Protective Services investigating employee for neglect."

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