

Stop Efforts to Roll Back Protections for Working Families: Wisconsin Family Medical Leave on the Chopping Block

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If you care about teachers and their families, please take the time to read on or just go straight to the following link: <https://goo.gl/x6aKsA>

A bill to end Wisconsin Family and Medical Leave coverage would harm Wisconsin families, including ending the right to use paid sick leave while on family leave to care for a child after birth or adoption.

The bill, SB 490, would exempt an employer covered under the federal law and medical leave law from the state family and medical leave law. This would include virtually all school districts in the state!

FMLA allows an employee to take unpaid time off if they become ill, have a child, or need to care for a sick parent, spouse or child. All of the provisions below would be removed with by ending the Wisconsin law and relying only the the federal law.

Under Wisconsin FMLA, an employee is entitled to six weeks of specifically designated family leave following birth or adoption. Therefore, if an employee had already used 12 weeks of FMLA leave for her own serious health condition, that employee would still be able to take six weeks of protected leave to care for her child. Without coverage under the Wisconsin FMLA, an employee would no longer be entitled to six weeks of specifically designated "family leave" following the birth or adoption of a child. This means that a mother who needs to use FMLA leave for 12 weeks for her own serious health condition, due to being placed on bedrest or otherwise, would have no right to additional leave following the birth of her child.

Under the Wisconsin FMLA, employers must allow employees to substitute paid sick leave to cover their FMLA absences even though the leave is not due to illness. Without coverage under the Wisconsin FMLA, employees would have no right to use accrued paid sick leave to care for their children following birth. This would have a particularly devastating effect on education employees who are given no vacation leave.

Please click on the link provided (<https://goo.gl/x6aKsA>) to send a message to your state senators. It is super easy, and an effective way to make your voice heard.