

# Everyone Gets Sick. Not Everyone Has Time to Get Better.

- ◆ **Nearly half (48%) of private-sector workers don't have a single paid sick day to care for themselves when they are ill.**
- ◆ **Those most in need are the least likely to have paid sick days.** Only one in four low-wage workers have paid sick days, and they are often most likely to have jobs requiring frequent contact with the public.
- ◆ **When people have no choice but to go to work sick, they risk infecting others.** For example, only one in five food service or hotel workers have any paid sick days. Child care, retail and nursing home workers are also less likely to have paid sick days.
- ◆ **Paid sick days are particularly important for working parents.** Children get well faster when a parent cares for them. Yet, 94 million working people don't have paid sick days to care for an ill child—and cannot afford to take time off without pay. As a result, children are forced to go to school sick.
- ◆ **Even our government—the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—asks us to stay home from work when we're sick,** and to keep sick children out of school and child care. Workers without paid sick days don't have that option, and we all risk getting sick.
- ◆ **Healthy workers are critical to a vibrant economy.** Working people with paid sick days are more productive and less likely to leave their job, which saves businesses money by reducing turnover. If workers were provided just seven paid sick days per year, our national economy would experience a net savings of \$8.1 billion per year.

## Working Families Need the Healthy Families Act.

- ◆ Although at least 11 states around the country are considering paid sick days initiatives this year, currently, no state or federal law guarantees paid sick days.
- ◆ **The Healthy Families Act guarantees workers seven paid sick days a year to recover from their own illness or to care for a sick family member.** The Healthy Families Act also provides paid sick time for diagnostic and medical appointments.
- ◆ A broad-based coalition of women's, civil rights, medical, children's, faith-based and union organizations supports this legislation. And, nine of out ten voters (89%) support paid sick days as a basic labor standard.
- ◆ **Urge Congress to support the Healthy Families Act (HR 1542 / S. 910)!**