



**NEW MEXICO
BUSINESS COALITION**

PO Box 95735
Albuquerque, NM 87199
(505) 836-4223 FAX (505) 836-4522
www.nmbizcoalition.org

RE: Oppose SB 3 Paid Family Medical Leave Act

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

The New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC) is an organization of hundreds of businesses and thousands of New Mexicans. Its focus is to make New Mexico a better place to live, work, and run a business so that New Mexicans have jobs and can provide for their families.

We respectfully oppose SB 3 Paid Family Medical Leave Act. New Mexicans are already dealing with the financial strain of inflation, and an additional .5% of their wages will only make things worse. Employees need every cent they are paid to provide food and necessities for themselves and/or their families.

The costs and ramifications on businesses are too high when those still open are struggling with inflation, a lack of workers, and previous mandates of paid vacation under the Healthy Workplace Act.

There is also no consideration for what an employer is supposed to do while the employee is absent. Hiring a temp is expensive and most employers cannot operate effectively with the position not filled. Hiring another employee creates an issue when the original employee returns. Is the employer then forced to fire the new hire and have them go on unemployment?

NMBC surveyed members of the business community regarding the proposed requirements of this law and found an overwhelming 94 percent of respondents were adamantly opposed. This opposition represents everything from small businesses to national corporations. Many suggested this would be the final state mandate that would cause them to close or move their business. Of those not completely opposed all were at least partially opposed and many suggested this should be voluntary only – not another state mandate.

We urge you to say 'NO' to SB 3 Paid Family Medical Leave Act and vote against putting this additional burden on employers and employees.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carla J. Sonntag".

Carla J. Sonntag
President/CEO