



**NEW MEXICO
BUSINESS COALITION**

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RE: Oppose SM 1 Paid Family and Medical Leave Task Force

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

The New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC) represents hundreds of businesses and thousands of New Mexicans. Our focus is to make New Mexico a better place to live and work, where we have an abundance of good-paying jobs to provide for our families.

NMBC respectfully opposes HM 3 Paid Family and Medical Leave Task Force. The primary purpose of SM 1 is to set up a task force to develop recommendations for the enactment and implementation of a paid family and medical leave act, including the establishment and administration of a paid family and medical leave trust fund administered by the Workforce Solutions Department.

Secondarily, the task force will develop a report that includes estimated yearly program costs and revenue and comprehensive cost assessments of initial and continuing implementation of a paid family and medical leave act.

Unfortunately, the task force is heavily weighted with people who do not own or operate businesses and will endorse the idea of business paying more. This comes on the heels of New Mexico passing the worst and most aggressive paid sick leave law in the nation. A law that went into effect with no opportunity for business representation or input.

The reasons stated for paid family and medical leave do not consider the impact on business. New Mexico lost about 40 percent of its businesses due to the Covid lockdowns and those that survived will be significantly impacted by a bad paid sick leave policy, our state does not need more government mandates that will deter from business growth and job creation.

On behalf of hard-working New Mexicans and businesses, and for the reasons stated, we urge you to say 'NO' to SM 1 Paid Family and Medical Leave Task Force.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

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

Carla J. Sonntag
President