



For Immediate Release:

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The Time to Care Coalition Applauds Speaker Prieto for His Commitment to Move Earned Sick Leave Legislation in September

(Highland Park) – The New Jersey Time to Care Coalition composed of more than 100 statewide and local progressive groups working to bring work – family balance to hard working people and families across the state applauded Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto on his announcement today that in September the Assembly will begin considering earned sick leave legislation. The bill would require employers to provide earned sick leave to workers in the state.

“By moving earned sick days legislation forward, Speaker Prieto and bill sponsor Assemblywoman Pam Lampitt are leading New Jersey and our working families out of the dark ages by taking action to ensure all workplaces in NJ are healthy and humane. We applaud the Speaker and the Assemblywoman for understanding the urgency of this issue and taking steps to act. We are especially glad to see the NJ Assembly support the local efforts to pass earned sick days policies while also making progress on a statewide policy that would cover all New Jerseyans said **Phyllis Salowe Kaye, Executive Director of New Jersey Citizen Action, and member of the Time to Care Coalition.**

"No worker regardless of the industry in which they work, should feel they must go to work sick or face lost pay or the loss of their job for illness," said **Karen White, Director, Working Families Program at the Center for Women and Work.** She continued, "Research shows that earned sick days keep working families and local economies healthy."

The [New Jersey Time to Care Coalition](#) and its members are working in coordination with the New Jersey Working Families Alliance, Communities United and others to pass local paid sick days ordinances in collaboration with elected officials and residents of six New Jersey towns including Trenton, East Orange, Irvington, Paterson, Passaic and Montclair.

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Providing working families with "time to care" means strong families, strong workplaces, and strong communities!