

STATEMENT



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Paid Leave for All Cheers Passage of Worker Leave Protections in HEROES Act House Vote

WASHINGTON – Dawn Huckelbridge, Director of the Paid Leave for All campaign, today issued the following statement praising the House of Representatives for passing the HEROES Act, which will close loopholes and guarantee more workers access to paid leave during the COVID-19 pandemic:

“Today’s vote marks an important step toward ensuring that every worker in America has access to paid leave in times of emergency. The HEROES Act will close the gaping loopholes left by the Labor Department and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, that cut out millions of workers from access to emergency paid sick days and paid leave during the pandemic. Those who will benefit and be covered from this bill include millions of frontline health care, grocery and meat packing workers who have been risking their lives to keep us healthy and fed during the crisis.

“It is now on the Senate and the president to do their part. Senators cannot in good conscience give corporations liability protection from employees and customers who get sick without guaranteeing workers paid leave. As cities and states take steps toward re-opening, the health and wellbeing of millions depend on the paid leave provisions in the HEROES Act becoming law.

“Not only is paid leave smart policy, it is smart politics and voters want Congress to take action. Polling shows that paid leave has strong, bipartisan support among likely voters even in Senate battleground states and frontline congressional districts. Eighty-six percent of these voters, including 86% of Independents and 74% of Republicans are in favor of paid leave. This polling demonstrates that members of the House who oppose these worker protections, or senators who take these provisions out of the HEROES Act, are working against large majorities of their own constituents. A robust federal policy will provide workers in this country with much-needed benefits that protect their jobs, their health and the wellbeing of their communities.

“Workers across the country applaud the bipartisan members of the House today who stood up for working families and the millions who will benefit from the paid leave benefits in the HEROES Act. Now it's up to the Senate to turn them into a reality.”

Today, hundreds of organizations and workers from nearly all 50 states and Washington, DC wrote to Congressional leaders urging them to expand paid sick days and paid leave to protect every worker and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their petition, initiated by the Worker Advisory Group of the Paid Leave for All campaign, can be found [here](#).

The Paid Leave for All campaign is a growing collaborative of organizations fighting for paid family and medical leave for all working people.

For more information on the Paid Leave for All campaign, visit paidleaveforall.org.

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