



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sen. Cassidy's Plan Isn't Paid Leave, It's An Empty Promise

WASHINGTON – Following [news this morning](#) that Republican Senator Bill Cassidy of Louisiana will be pushing to include legislation he disingenuously calls "paid leave" in the upcoming coronavirus relief package, Dawn Huckelbridge, Executive Director of the [Paid Leave for All campaign](#), released the following statement:

The Cassidy bill fails spectacularly to meet working families' needs during this pandemic crisis. At a time when the government has no problem bailing out big corporations, Cassidy's bill asks millions of working parents to steal from their own futures by taking out loans on their future child tax credits—and it only covers families with new children, not time off work to care for their health or sick family members. In short, this plan is not paid, and it's not leave. It's an empty promise for workers and families who need real support.

With countless American fearing what would happen if they get COVID-19, or worrying about their jobs and incomes while their kids are stuck at home, we need solutions that meet the moment. We know that paid sick days and leave are effective at curbing transmission of the virus. Congress's emergency paid leave provides relief for parents who can't go back to work with schools and camps closed. There is simply no way to get our economy back to full speed, safely reopen and reduce spread, and address the racial disparities of this crisis without meaningful paid leave that covers everyone and covers all situations requiring care for families struck by COVID-19. We need solutions like the ones in the HEROES Act. That's what Congress should focus on.

The Cassidy bill would take us in the wrong direction and does not meet the urgent needs that working families deserve.

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