

# PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: [press@paidleaveforall.org](mailto:press@paidleaveforall.org)

## ***Ways & Means Committee Leads on Creating a Permanent, National Paid Leave Policy***

### ***Paid Leave for All Praises Chairman Neal’s Proposed ‘Building an Economy for Families Act’***

**Washington, DC** — Today, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Richie Neal (D-MA) unveiled his Building an Economy for Families Act — a proposal that would establish a national, permanent paid family and medical leave policy for all workers and would expand access to child care.

The announcement of the proposal follows last week’s [Ways and Means Committee hearing](#) on paid leave and child care.

“As President Biden debuts his American Families Plan tomorrow, this new proposal demonstrates both Chairman Neal’s commitment to enacting a permanent, national paid leave policy and the growing momentum around the issue,” **said Dawn Huckelbridge, Director of Paid Leave for All.** “We look forward to working with the Committee and the Biden Administration to build back better by making paid family and medical leave a reality for all working people.”

#### **Chairman Neal’s ‘Building an Economy for Families Act’ would include:**

- **12 weeks** of comprehensive paid family & medical leave **for all FMLA purposes** – to care for a new child, to care for a family member, and to care for your own medical needs
- **Wage replacement** for the average worker, who would receive about 2/3 of their wages while taking leave, with a progressive structure so that low-income earners earn a higher percentage
- Expansion of the definition of “family” to ensure that the policy is inclusive and **covers all working families**
- Rep. Neal is proposing that paid leave should be administered by the Department of Treasury,

***with the option for states and employers with existing programs to continue administering their benefits*** with reimbursement for the federal government.

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*The Paid Leave for All campaign is a growing collaborative of organizations fighting for paid family and medical leave for all working people. Learn more about Paid Leave for All [here](#).*