

Healthy Families Act

Background:

Paid sick days make it possible for employees to access preventive services, including breastfeeding support and counseling, when needed. However more than 34 million U.S. workers in the private sector are not able to earn a single paid sick day.

The [Healthy Families Act](#) (HFA) would guarantee workers can earn up to 56 hours (seven days) of paid sick time to stay home and get well when they are ill, care for a sick family member, seek routine medical care, or seek assistance related to domestic violence. Workers would earn one hour of paid sick time for every 30 hours worked. Small employers with fewer than 15 employees would not be required to provide paid sick days.

Paid sick days make it possible for employees to access preventive services, including breastfeeding support and counseling, when needed.

Current Status

The Healthy Families Act will be re-introduced this session.

Equity Lens

[40% of the workforce](#) does not have a single paid sick day. Those who do not have paid sick days are often those who can least afford lost wages from missed work: eight in ten of the lowest hourly wage workers have no paid sick days. Additionally, lower-wage workers, workers of color and hourly workers are [least likely to have access](#) to paid sick time.

Action Needed

The Healthy Families Act is seeking additional cosponsors.

Individual Action Opportunities

- Watch for news and action opportunities:
 - [National Partnership for Women & Families](#)
 - [MomsRising](#)

Organizational Action Opportunities

- Sign on Letter: [Sign on in Support of the Healthy Families Act](#)

Key Messages

Paid sick days make it possible for employees to access preventive services, including breastfeeding support and counseling, when needed. The Healthy Families Act would significantly increase access to paid sick days.

Key Resources

- National Paid Sick Days Coalition: [PaidSickDays.org](#)
- National Partnership for Women & Families: "[Paid Sick Days](#)"

Social Media

Hashtags to Use: #HealthyFamilies #SickDays #WorkingMoms

Handles for all U.S. Senators: <https://twitter.com/cspan/lists/senators/members>

Handles for all U.S. Representatives: <https://twitter.com/cspan/lists/u-s-representatives/members/members>

When using Twitter, be sure to use .@ if you are beginning your tweet with a Twitter handle. There is no need for a period before the @ sign if a twitter handle is not in the beginning of the tweet.

General sample messages

Paid #SickDays keep everyone healthy. Support #WorkingMoms and support the #HealthyFamilies Act, [@LegislatorHandle](#)

Paid sick days make it possible for employees to access preventive services, including #breastfeeding support and counseling, when needed. Support the Healthy Families Act! [@LegislatorHandle](#)

40% of the workforce does not have a single #paysickday. The #HealthyFamilies Act would help ensure that we ALL stay healthy.

The Healthy Families Act (HFA) would guarantee workers can earn up to 7 days of paid sick time to stay home and get well when they are ill, to care for a sick family member, to seek routine medical care, or seek assistance related to domestic violence. #paysickday #WorkingMoms #HealthyFamiliesAct