

May 13, 2020

The Honorable Ash Kalra
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2196
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 3216 (Kalra) – Support

Dear Assemblymember Kalra,

On behalf of the California Women's Law Center, we write in support of Assembly Bill 3216 which will require employers to provide two weeks of emergency paid sick leave to every California worker.

Currently, California law only guarantees up to three paid sick days per year, and over 12 million California workers are not eligible to access the additional leave available under the recently passed Federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Workers in California who are providing essential services are disproportionately people of color, immigrants, and women. These workers face an impossible choice between working while sick or losing necessary income for themselves and their families.

AB 3216 will guarantee that all workers in California can access two weeks of paid sick leave during this and any future state of emergency. In addition, it will ensure that employees can take job-protected time off to care for a sick family member, regardless of the size of their employer.

Finally, AB 3216 will mandate that employers recall workers who have been laid off in highly impacted industries such as hotels, event centers and retailers, once the crisis is over.

CWLC's mission is to break down barriers and advance the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy, and education. AB 3216 will ensure that all Californians are able to access paid leave to take care of themselves and their families during this unprecedented time.

For these reasons, the California Women's Law Center supports AB 3216.

Sincerely,



Betsy Butler
Executive Director

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