

RE: House Labor, at the Rise, Room 135  
H 7171 (Giraldo) to extend Paid Family Leave from 6 to 12 weeks

I was one of the lucky ones that was able to take maternity leave for several months without feeling the financial burden.

I cannot IMAGINE having to return to work after only 6 weeks w my newborn. It's devastating for both mother and child and the family unit.

No one is getting the best version of that person when a mother or father has to return to work so soon.

They are not given the time or space to be the best parent or worker. There is NO time for mental health or the emotional labor associated w being a new parent.

Postpartum support in this country is significantly lacking. It's lacking for all of us but there are underserved groups that suffer from mental health, stress, and lack of financial aid. Again, I was lucky enough to not have to deal w these things due to my fortunate circumstances and STILL becoming a new mom was STILL challenging!

My head was spinning at 6 weeks  
We were still figuring out our schedules  
Living off of frozen meals and 3 consecutive hours of sleep- 5/6 hours total at best

I CANNOT IMAGINE GOING BACK TO WORK AFTER ONLY 6 SHORT WEEKS W A NEWBORN

it breaks my heart for both mother and baby.  
It's devastating to the family unit  
It's not serving the workforce  
It's not helping w mental health.

As small businesses owner I want my team to have leave that gives them Time and space to focus on their families and themselves. We are TRYING as best as possible to make this a reality for our team. I want this so badly for them.


I don't feel like this is a negotiable. I don't feel like this is a reward. Instead I feel that proper support for families has been taken from us as society. It leaves me feeling angry, sad, and frustrated.

This situation is an unspoken crisis that is devastating our family lives, our mental health and happiness.

There is no benefit in my opinion to these short, cruel, and severely unrealistic maternity and paternity leaves. We need CHANGE NOW

Ps. I would BE at this hearing but I'm  
Currently out of state staying w my mother so she can provide childcare while  
I work... because that's yet another thing we lack in our society

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