



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Testimony
In Support of

LD 539 An Act to Repeal the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

Good Afternoon Senator Tipping, Rep. Roeder and the Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, I am State Representative Shelley Rudnicki representing District 67, the towns of Fairfield and Benton. I am here to bring forward **LD 539 An Act to Repeal the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program.**

This bill completely repeals the Paid Family Medical Leave Act. This is a tax on working people of Maine. WE, the legislature are constantly passing bills that are taxing Maine Families. We hear bills all the time in Taxation for one credit or another.

I can break this down for all of us. This is what will happen to a low income Maine family:

If someone is making \$18/hr * 40/hours = \$720 for one week.
 $\$720 \times .5\% = \$3.6 \times 52 = \$187.20$
 $20/\text{hr} * 40 = 800 \times .5\% = \$4 * 52 = \$208$
 $25/\text{hr} * 40 = 1000 * .5\% = \$5 * 52 = \$260$

These amounts could pay a month of electricity or a ½ a tank of oil, or 4 large boxes of diapers. I happen to know that the Tax Committee just passed a bill out that exempts diapers from sales tax, because every little bit makes a difference.

You may not think this is much money in the grand scheme of things but low income individuals think it is a significant amount. I heard from way too many constituents that are furious that they are being taxed and taxed and taxed.

Sincerely,

Shelley Rudnicki
State Representative

District 67 Fairfield and Benton