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Women Workers Need Paid Sick Days

Statement of Jill Miller, CEO

Women Work! The National Network for Women's Employment

Women Work! The National Network for Women's Employment strongly supports the Healthy Families Act, which would require businesses to provide at least seven days paid sick days per year – enabling employees to care for themselves or their family members when necessary.

“Women workers disproportionately lack paid sick leave,” says Women Work! CEO Jill Miller. “Huge numbers of women remain segregated in low-wage service sector jobs that are the least likely to offer paid sick days. In addition, women represent three out of five part-time workers, the vast majority of whom do not have paid sick leave.”

Guaranteed paid sick leave is critically needed to ensure that workers can fulfill family responsibilities without jeopardizing economic security. “For women living paycheck to paycheck, taking a day without pay to care for a sick child can mean financial disaster,” says Miller. Women Work! urges Congress to advance the economic well-being of low-income women and their families by passing the Healthy Families Act without delay.

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Women Work! The National Network for Women's Employment is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that advances economic justice and equality for women through education, advocacy and organizing. Since 1978, the Network has assisted more than 10 million women to successfully enter, re-enter and advance in the workforce. Through supporting, advocating and increasing women's economic self-sufficiency, Women Work! members strengthen families and communities.