



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 554

Chairperson: Steve Lathrop
Committee: Business and Labor
Date of Hearing: February 2, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 554 would prohibit an employer of more than 50 employees from forcing an employee to substitute paid for unpaid leave unless requested by the employee. This bill would prohibit employees from being forced to use earned vacation days before qualifying for Family Medical Leave Act leave.

The purpose of the Family Medical Leave act was to assist families in coping with emergencies. In vindication of that purpose, a court-ordered arbitration panel ruled unanimously last year that an employer in a certain industry could not require an employee to substitute paid for unpaid leave.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Tom White