Today’s Date

Dear Senator or Representative\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

As one of your constituents and a parent who has experience with breastfeeding, I am writing to ask you to support paid leave policy. Global, national and state health organizations recommend 6 months of exclusive breastfeeding consistent with studies validating better long term health for both mother and baby. Yet, nearly one-third of employed women do not take any maternity leave, and nearly 1 in 4 women who do take leave return to work within two weeks due to financial and job insecurity, diminishing the ability to establish the connection needed to successfully breastfeed.

Paid leave policy can provide all families with time to adequately care for others without excessive monetary hardship. It is especially important to new families learning how to give the best nutrition and developmental start possible to help the newest members of society grow to their fullest potential.

Long-term savings can be achieved through better health outcomes that effectively reduce healthcare spending. Businesses that have implemented better paid leave policies have done so noting the advantages of employee recruitment, retention and reduced turnover costs.

Thank you for your service and for taking the time to consider the far-reaching investment in paid leave policy.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Your Contact Information