



Highlights shared with Congress

KEY POINTS REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF PAID LEAVE HIGHLIGHTED TO CONGRESS BY CONSERVATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

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impact that could have on families in America. Where there are strong families, we need less government

— Patriot Voices - Senator Rick Santorum

As a nation, we decided long ago that all American children irrespective of their circumstances deserved to be educated. We decided that the aged and frail deserve economic and healthcare support. We decided that there should be programs in place for our impoverished citizens. It is time for America to protect its most vulnerable population of all: infants. Paid parental leave upon the birth of a child should be integral to our social contract, **I5u:P11P[R4]&]M41R4uG14RP0:5Y[ISIR]1H[]M5[uiRIM]1R]M4Pq4]M4RP4G:RiURIM[]ID**

— Abby McCloskey, policy director in two presidential campaigns

A society can be fairly judged on how family-friendly it is, including how easy we make it to have a child. A focused [paid leave] proposal, geared at giving new parents some insulation from the demands of the market economy at a time when baby is hardly sleeping through the night, mom is still physically recovering, dad may be caring for them both, and the family's income has become more variable, can attract support across the aisle.

— Patrick Brown

No matter one's income, every mother and father deserve and should spend the most crucial time of their child's **uI71RR1R7]M47]qG1q14MS:5IT1MSMSI1[q451G1]A5[104R0:55&R1M1]T14MSI[]17R104RM]S1qM]q:5** a decline in birth rates to an emergence of society-transforming technologies to increasing loneliness and other mental health challenges - it is clear that families are an essential source of social stability and health. The foundational work of families grounds the health of children, the labor force, and civil society...For this reason, we encourage members of Congress to work toward establishing a national paid family leave policy.

— Center for Public Justice

With 71% of registered voters supporting paid leave for parents, this issue should be common ground for both conservatives and liberals.

— Students for Life

leave for family reasons.¹ This statistic is even more concerning when broken down by gender: 48 percent of women (35 percent of men).²

— Americans United for Life

Most parents report wishing that they could spend more time after birth with their child than they are able to.³ ... The extended time out of the labor force is costly. Employer-sponsored paid family leave is relatively uncommon across the income spectrum, and nearly non-existent for low-to-moderate income parents. Child care providers often do not take infants under six weeks old.

— Convergence Collaborative

By softening the tradeoff between career and having children, paid leave could also lead to more would-be parents become a parent.

— Patrick Brown

Because paid leave is focused on a month or two after birth, this would not create the same concerns around dependency and work disincentives as other forms of social spending.

— Institute for Family Studies

The time after birth is a crucial and unique time of bonding, healing, and child development. It is also a time of income volatility and job insecurity. These competing concerns make it a uniquely valuable time for providing paid leave.

— Convergence Collaborative

1 National Partnership for Women & Families. (2018). "Voters' Views on Paid Family + Medical Leave". <https://nationalpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/voters-views-on-paid-family-medical-leave-survey-findings-august-2018.pdf>

2 *ibid.*

3 Schulte, B., Durana, A., Stout, B., Moyer, J. (2017). "Paid Family Leave: How Much Time is Enough?" <https://www.newamerica.org/better-life-lab/reports/paid-family-leave-how-much-time-enough/introduction>