

From: Coriell, Scott [Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gov. Shumlin Statement on Earned Sick Leave

MONTPELIER – Gov. Peter Shumlin issued the following statement after the House gave initial approval to H.85, earned sick leave legislation.

“I want to thank Reps. Tristan Toleno, Sarah Copeland-Hanzas, Helen Head, and Speaker Shap Smith for their leadership in getting this bill through the House. Most Vermonters agree that if you’re sick you shouldn’t be faced with the decision to either go to work and put others at risk or miss work, sacrifice your paycheck, and potentially lose your job. Many employers agree with that as well and already provide fair earned leave policies. But some do not and that puts many Vermonters in a difficult and unfair situation. In the past, I have been skeptical of proposals that did not do enough to recognize the costs and burdens to businesses this legislation might create. This bill addresses those concerns in a balanced way to provide this important benefit to Vermonters.”

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