

New Jersey Partnership *for* Working Families

It's Time To Care for New Jersey's Families

I Pledge to Support Paid Family Leave Legislation

WHEREAS, as an elected leader, I am committed to making our community a better place to live, work and raise a family. I believe that no individual should be forced to choose between going to work in order to provide for his or her family financially and staying at home to care for a sick or dying family member or to care for a newborn or adopted baby in the first precious weeks of life; and

WHEREAS, if enacted, Paid Family Leave Insurance would eliminate the need for workers to make this painful decision; and

WHEREAS, pending Paid Family Leave Legislation (S-2249) would allow 10 weeks of paid leave, up to \$502 weekly, for 10 weeks and is fully funded via employee payroll deductions averaging less than a dollar a week; and

WHEREAS, the rest of the industrialized world has had such a program in place for decades, and the United States is one of only 5 nations out of 173 nations surveyed by Harvard University in 2007 that does not have this program. The other four nations are Lesotho, Liberia, Swaziland and Papua New Guinea; and

WHEREAS, a September 2007 poll found that 75% of respondents favor extending current unpaid leave laws to provide for Paid Family Leave and that a November 2006 poll conducted by the Rutgers University Eagleton Institute of Politics found that 78% of all New Jersey adults supported the estimated \$1 per week employee paid cost for the program; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I believe it is time for a New Jersey to be a leader in protecting working families and should become the third state in the nation to enact a comprehensive Paid Family Leave Program; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that as a member of the New Jersey State Legislature, I pledge to support pending Paid Family Leave Legislation.

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

The New Jersey Partnership for Working Families is a Coalition consisting of over 60 labor, religious, minority, academic, women and community organizations that advocates in support of Paid Family Leave programs.