

SENATE BILL NO. 126

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS WIELECHOWSKI, Ellis

Introduced: 1/22/14

Referred: Labor and Commerce, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the payment of sick leave by certain employers; and providing for
2 an effective date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** AS 23.10.105 is amended to read:

5 **Sec. 23.10.105. Posting summary required.** An employer subject to
6 AS 23.10.050 - 23.10.150 **or 23.10.166** shall keep a summary or abstract of **the**
7 **applicable** [THESE] sections, approved by the commissioner, posted in a conspicuous
8 location at the place where a person subject to them is employed. An employer shall
9 be furnished copies of a summary by the state on request without charge.

10 * **Sec. 2.** AS 23.10.110(a) is amended to read:

11 (a) An employer **subject to AS 23.10.010 - 23.10.150** who violates a
12 provision of AS 23.10.060 or 23.10.065, **or an employer subject to AS 23.10.166**
13 **who violates a provision of that section,** is liable to an employee affected in the
14 amount of unpaid minimum wages, [OR] unpaid overtime compensation, **or unpaid**

1 **sick leave**, as the case may be, and, except as provided in (d) of this section, in an
2 additional equal amount as liquidated damages.

3 * **Sec. 3.** AS 23.10.110(b) is amended to read:

4 (b) An action to recover from the employer the wages and damages for which
5 the employer is liable may be maintained in a competent court by an employee
6 personally and for other employees similarly situated, or an employee may
7 individually designate in writing an agent or representative to maintain an action for
8 the employee. The consent shall be filed in the court in which the action is brought. At
9 the request of a person paid less than the amount to which the person is entitled under
10 AS 23.10.050 - 23.10.150 **or 23.10.166**, the commissioner may take an assignment in
11 trust for the employee of the full amount to which the employee is entitled under this
12 section and may bring any legal action necessary to collect the claim.

13 * **Sec. 4.** AS 23.10 is amended by adding a new section to article 3 to read:

14 **Sec. 23.10.166. Minimum paid sick leave.** (a) An employer shall provide to
15 an employee who resides in the state and whose terms and conditions of employment
16 are not subject to bargaining between the employer and a collective bargaining agent
17 at least one hour of paid sick leave for every 40 hours the employee works. An
18 employee who accrues paid sick leave may begin using it on a date agreed to by the
19 employer or a date 90 days after the employee begins working for the employer,
20 whichever occurs first. An employee may carry over unused paid sick leave from year
21 to year.

22 (b) An employer is not subject to this section if the employer offers to each of
23 its employees who reside in the state paid leave that

24 (1) accrues at a rate that is equal to or greater than one hour for every
25 40 hours worked;

26 (2) may be carried over from year to year; and

27 (3) may be used as provided by this section.

28 (c) For the purpose of this section, a full-time employee who is exempt from
29 the overtime requirements of 29 U.S.C. 213(a)(1) shall be considered to have worked
30 40 hours for each full work week the employee completes.

31 (d) Subject to the limitations of this section, an employer shall permit an

1 employee to use paid sick leave for

2 (1) the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of the employee or a
3 member of the employee's immediate family for a mental or physical illness, injury, or
4 health condition;

5 (2) time the employee spends away from work because the employee
6 is the victim of a crime of sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking for which a
7 person has been arrested or formally charged.

8 (e) An employer who violates this section is subject to AS 23.10.110. An
9 employer violates this section if the employer

10 (1) hinders or delays the commissioner or an authorized representative
11 of the commissioner in the performance of a duty related to the enforcement of this
12 section;

13 (2) refuses to admit the commissioner or an authorized representative
14 of the commissioner to any place of employment as may be required for the
15 enforcement of this section;

16 (3) refuses to make a record accessible, or to furnish a sworn statement
17 of the record, or to give information required for the enforcement of this section, upon
18 demand, to the commissioner or an authorized representative of the commissioner;

19 (4) fails to post a summary or abstract of this section as required by
20 AS 23.10.105; or

21 (5) discharges or in any other manner discriminates against an
22 employee because the employee has filed a complaint, instituted or caused to be
23 instituted any proceeding under or related to this section, or testified or is about to
24 testify in a proceeding under or related to this section.

25 (f) In this section,

26 (1) "domestic partner" means a person who is cohabiting with another
27 person in a relationship that is like a marriage but is not a legal marriage;

28 (2) "employee's immediate family" means

29 (A) a spouse or domestic partner of the employee; or

30 (B) a parent, child, including a stepchild and an adopted child,

31 and sibling of the employee if the parent, child, or sibling resides with the

1 employee;

2 (3) "employer" means a person, other than a federal, state, or
3 municipal government, who employs any combination of 15 or more full-time, part-
4 time, and temporary employees who are compensated under an express or implied
5 contract of hire that is verbal or written;

6 (4) "paid sick leave" means time that is compensated at the same
7 hourly rate and with the same benefits that the employee would earn while working.

8 * **Sec. 5.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
9 read:

10 **APPLICABILITY.** AS 23.10.166, enacted by sec. 4 of this Act, applies to

11 (1) work performed after September 30, 2014; and

12 (2) contracts formed after September 30, 2014.

13 * **Sec. 6.** This Act takes effect October 1, 2014.