

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Megan Horst, I am a late 30s homeowner in NE Portland, and I am writing in support of HB 3031, the FAMLl Equity Act.

I support HB 3031, the FAMLl Equity Act, because it is a humane policy that helps ALL families. It also benefits our collective well-being and the economy.

We need a universal paid family and medical leave policy. I have a lot of experience with this need, since I have a lot of close family members with health complications. My dad was very ill from diabetes for years, and my mother was his primary caretaker when his kidneys and eyesight began failing. My mother subsequently got cancer, and my sister was her primary caretaker in the months before she died. I also have a husband with a traumatic brain injury, and after his injury he needed a lot of help with daily functioning in the early months of his recovery. Finally, my sister just had a baby that was born 6 weeks early, and she has had to juggle caring for her toddler and going to the NICU to see her baby. She is worried about having to go back to work far too soon. In each and every one of these cases, the caretakers had to make serious sacrifices and take risks of losing their job, or worse- not caring for their loved ones adequately. What a horrible choice.

We can do better. Please support HB 3031, the FAMLl Equity Act.

Thank you,

Megan Horst