



April 18, 2008

The Honorable Pete Stark
The Honorable George Miller
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Representatives Stark and Miller:

Voices for America's Children is pleased to endorse, "The Family Leave Insurance Act of 2008." This important legislation will ensure that eligible workers have up to 12 weeks of paid leave each year to care for a newborn, newly adopted or foster child, disabled family members, or to attend to their own serious illness.

This measure builds on the demonstrated success of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), which has provided millions of Americans with needed job-protected leave since its passage in 1993. Because the FMLA guarantees only *unpaid* leave, many women and men are unable to take essential time off when a new baby arrives or a medical crisis with a child or family member strikes.

The "Family Leave Insurance Act of 2008" would ensure that workers continue to receive some income when they take leave to meet key family responsibilities or to recover from a serious illness that interrupts their capacity to act as the family's breadwinner.

Voices for America's Children believes this legislation will help American families to balance the demands of work and family. On behalf of the VOICES network of 60 member organizations across the United States and the millions of families that will benefit from your legislation, we want to thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William H. Bentley", written in a cursive style.

William H. Bentley
President & CEO