



LGBTQ ALLYSHIP
ORGANIZING FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

WHY WE ARE FIGHTING FOR PAID SICK AND SAFE LEAVE IN WASHINGTON

WHAT IS PAID SICK AND SAFE LEAVE

Raise Up WA, a coalition of Washington labor unions and community organizations (including LGBTQ Allyship), filed a ballot initiative in January 2016 to extend paid sick and safe leave to all workers in the state who do not currently have it, as well as to gradually increase the statewide minimum wage to \$13.50 an hour by 2020. If this measure passes, workers will receive an hour of paid leave for every 40 hours worked (about seven days a year if you work a full-time schedule). Workers will be able to use paid sick and safe time to deal with personal illnesses; to take care of ailing family members, including domestic partners; and to seek safety when experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

WHY DO LGBTQ WORKERS IN WASHINGTON NEED PAID SICK AND SAFE LEAVE

- LGBTQ workers in Washington need paid sick and safe leave because they experience higher rates of illnesses and disabilities than their heterosexual counterparts. This is especially true for Black and Latino LGBTQ people.
- LGBTQ parents in Washington need paid safe and sick leave because they earn 25 percent less than married, heterosexual parents. Without it, they cannot afford to take time off to take care of sick children. LGBTQ People of Color in Washington are more likely to be raising children than their white peers.
- LGBTQ people need paid sick and safe leave when experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. A 2011 survey by the National Center for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force found that one-in-five trans* people experienced domestic violence at home due to their non-conforming gender identities.

HOW CAN WE WIN PAID SICK AND SAFE LEAVE FOR ALL WASHINGTON WORKERS

Raise Up WA needs to collect 246,000 valid signatures by July 8th to get this initiative on the ballot. Voting day is Nov. 8, 2016, and voters must be registered by October 31st to vote in the election. ***Allyship is currently recruiting volunteers to collect signatures and register voters through-out the year!***

RESOURCES

LGBTQ Allyship - <http://allyship.org>

Raise Up WA - <http://www.raiseupwa.com>

Economic Opportunity Institute - <http://eoionline.org>

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