

AN ACT concerning employment.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Employee Sick Leave Act.

Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

"Department" means the Department of Labor.

"Personal sick leave benefits" means time accrued and available to an employee to be used as a result of absence from work due to personal illness, injury, or medical appointment, but does not include absences from work for which compensation is provided through an employer's plan.

Section 10. Use of leave; limitations.

(a) An employee may use personal sick leave benefits provided by the employer for absences due to an illness, injury, or medical appointment of the employee's child, spouse, sibling, parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandchild, grandparent, or stepparent, for reasonable periods of time as the employee's attendance may be necessary, on the same terms upon which the employee is able to use sick leave benefits for the employee's own illness or injury.

(b) An employer may limit the use of personal sick leave

benefits provided by the employer for absences due to an illness, injury, or medical appointment of the employee's child, spouse, domestic partner, sibling, parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandchild, grandparent, or stepparent to an amount not less than the personal sick leave that would be accrued during 6 months at the employee's then current rate of entitlement.

(c) An employer who has a paid time off policy that would otherwise provide benefits as required under subsections (a) and (b) shall not be required to modify such policy.

Section 15. Rights and remedies. The rights and remedies specified in this Act are in addition to any other rights or remedies afforded by contract or under other provisions of law. This Act does not prevent an employer from providing greater sick leave benefits than are provided for under this Act. This Act does not extend the maximum period of leave to which an employee is entitled under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, regardless of whether the employee receives sick leave compensation during that leave.

Section 20. Retaliation prohibited. An employer shall not deny an employee the right to use personal sick leave benefits in accordance with this Act or discharge, threaten to discharge, demote, suspend, or in any manner discriminate against an employee for using personal sick leave benefits,

attempting to exercise the right to use personal sick leave benefits, filing a complaint with the Illinois Department of Labor or alleging a violation of this Act, cooperating in an investigation or prosecution of an alleged violation of this Act, or opposing any policy or practice or act that is prohibited by this Act.

Section 25. Rules. The Department is prohibited from adopting any rules in contravention of this Act.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on January 1, 2017.