

My name is Josh Katt and I'm the CEO and founder of Kitchfix a meal delivery and catering food business with 40+ employees within our commissary kitchen in west town and storefront in the gold coast. We at Kitchfix already provide earned sick leave, paid vacation, and health benefits to all employees.

We made this decision because we believe that all levels of our workforce deserve sick time—all workers need benefits like earned sick time to deal with unexpected illnesses or family emergencies. Providing benefits like these ensure that our staff will stay home when they are ill, get healthy and return to work sooner, avoiding spreading illness to other workers and customers.

I recently had my first child, and as you may know, new babies in daycare tend to get sick quite a bit. My wife was often forced to stay home from work because my son wasn't allowed to go to daycare because he was sick. For women or men in similar situations that work in the Chicagoland's kitchens, more often than not they would not be paid for missing a day of work to care for their family. We feel it's our duty to provide these benefits to all employees. These benefits were easy to setup, and while I was skeptical at first that many employees would take advantage of paid sick time, we have had no issues with this.

When you're good to others, often times that goodness comes right back. Beyond knowing we are doing what we feel is right, we also see how these benefits have created a healthy workforce filled with men and women that have stayed with the company for many years as we've grown. We've also seen that our staff is eager to bring their friends and family to work for the company.

For these reasons I am a strong supporter of the earned sick leave ordinance in cook county.