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Statement by Clerk Orr in Support of Cook County Employer Paid Sick Leave Ordinance

I support the Cook County Employer Paid Sick Leave Ordinance, which allows full-time workers to earn up to five paid sick days per year—and allows part-time workers to earn one hour of sick time for every 40 hours they work. It is a humane and fair ordinance. We all get sick—workers, managers and CEOs. Workers shouldn't have to decide between earning a day's salary and staying home, potentially risking their jobs, to take care of their health.

The ordinance would lead to a reduction in emergency room visits and will protect the health of co-workers and customers. It's also good for business. Businesses will have healthier employees, see less employee turnover, and their jobs in Cook County will be more attractive.

Chicago recently passed a similar measure. It's time for Cook County to do so as well. We will pave the way for others by becoming the largest county in the country to provide paid sick leave to workers. I urge you to vote in favor of this important ordinance.

David Orr

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Orr". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Cook County Clerk