

Good Morning, we are Josh Kulp and Christine Cikowski, and as the co-owners of Honey Butter Fried Chicken in Chicago, we wanted to make clear that we believe earned sick leave is good for our employees, good for the safety of our community, and also good for business.

Honey Butter Fried Chicken just turned 3 years old, and with 40 employees in Avondale on Chicago's northside, we have turned our passion for great food into a bustling restaurant that intends to not only provide fried chicken served with honey butter on it, but also provide good paying jobs with meaningful benefits that properly compensate our hard working staff. Through industry leading pay, access to health insurance, paid sick time, paid time off, and paid parental leave, Honey Butter Fried Chicken has made retaining well-trained and valued employees a top priority. We want our business to be a place where hard working people can proudly and productively make a career.

We never want our employees to have to decide between staying home when they are ill and having to come to work where they could potentially hurt themselves, or expose their coworkers and our customers to their illness.

We know that workers who have the benefit of earned sick leave are less likely to leave their jobs than workers who do not, reducing turnover and associated costs. Further, we see "Earned Sick Leave" as a basic employment standard, like workers compensation, minimum wage, or child labor rules. We've seen that providing for a great workplace with essential benefits such as earned sick leave, has served to make our business healthier, stronger, and more profitable.

That's why we supported increased access to earned sick leave in Chicago, IL and are strong supporters of the earned sick leave ordinance for all of Cook County. It's the right thing – and the smart thing - to do.