



As small business owners, we know a healthy workforce is critical to the financial stability of our businesses and the local economy. When our communities thrive, so do our small businesses.

At some point, most people—small business owners and employees alike—need to take extended time away from work for major life events or medical emergencies such as welcoming a new baby, dealing with a serious medical diagnosis, or caring for an aging parent. But less than a quarter of Mainers have access to any paid leave—this means an overwhelming majority of people are forced to make difficult choices between taking care of themselves or their family, and losing their income, their job, or their business. Life events like these shouldn't mean financial struggle for any of us.

Paid Leave provides business owners and employees with much-needed flexibility and financial security to deal with major life events without jeopardizing our livelihoods. That's why small business owners across Maine are calling on state lawmakers to create a Paid Family & Medical Leave program because we know it's good for our businesses and the customers who support us.

The Maine Small Business Coalition is part of a coalition of parents, caregivers, policy experts and other Mainers who are calling on state lawmakers to establish a Paid Family & Medical Leave program that:

- Covers all working Mainers—including business owners and the self-employed.
- Provides a minimum of 12 weeks of paid leave to properly address the needs of business owners and employees.
- Is affordable for small businesses and the self-employed.
- Keeps costs low for everyone, by sharing the program cost among employees and employers.
- Offers high wage replacement to enable employees to take leave and meet their expenses.

It's time for Maine lawmakers to support the small businesses and working families that are critical to our state's local economy. We, the undersigned small business owners, are calling on lawmakers to pass legislation to establish a strong and robust Paid Family & Medical Leave program this year.

Sincerely,

And How

Shaun Donnelly
Arundel

And How

Amy Larkin
Arundel

Ann-imals Pet Supply

Ann Peterson
York

Arabica Coffee Company

Catherine Rasco
Portland

ASM Properties LLC

Adilah Muhammad
Lewiston

Awesome Hobby Shoppe

James Matthew Rahn
Biddeford

Bangkok Beach Bistro

Gary Venenga
York

Bar Harbor Farm

Gary Friedmann
Bar Harbor

Bath Natural Market

Jesse Weyl
Bath

Birth Roots

Leah Deragon
Portland

Bowers CPA

James Bowers
Rockland

Briar & Bone

Inge Graham
Biddeford

Bubbling Spring Counseling Services

Jody Telfair-Richard
Bristol

Capital furnishings

Wyatt Shorey
Augusta

Caring Home Care LLC

Djima Ainan
Lewiston

Carter's Green Market

Holly Carter
Gorham

Carters auto service Inc.

Doug Carter
Gorham

Children's Book Cellar

Ellen Richmond
Waterville

Clearwater Psychotherapy

Jennifer Waterman
Yarmouth

Coast City Comics

Tristan Gallagher
Portland

Cornerstone Financial Planning

Mackenzie Arsenault
Portland

Coveside Coffee

Andrew Nesheim
Portland

Craig Cardamone Individual and Relational Therapy

Craig Cardamone
Winterport

Creative Play Childcare

Terri Crocker
Bath

Downeast Flowers & Gifts Inc

Reg Cary
Kennebunk

Dye Hard

Claire Noonan
Portland

Dye Hard Salon Collective

Dana Morse
Portland

**Everchanging Seasons Consignment
Boutique**

Jennifer Thoits
Portland

Everything KIDS

Shandra Rubchinuk
Winthrop

Fast and Happy Bicycles

Jim McDonald
SPRINGVALE

Foodie friends grocery

Saleh Ibrahim
Portland

Glory store LLC

Leonard Niyongabo
Portland

Gneiss Spice

Beth Weisberger
Bethel

Grateful Maine Doula LLC

Laine Goble
Portland

Green Hand Bookshop

Michelle Souliere
Portland

Gulf of Maine Books

Elizabeth Leonard
Brunswick

Gulf of Maine Books

Gary Lawless
Brunswick

Haberdashery Resale Clothing

Jenny Davis
Portland

Hair by Heather Galambos

Heather Galambos
Westbrook

Harvest Tide Organics

Bethany Allen
Bowdoinham

Hinge Collaborative

Elizabeth Jabar
Waterville

Hops & Vine Craft Beer and Wine

Andre Albert
Gorham

I Am Willing

Rumbidzai Mufuka
Portland

IntWork, LLC

Stefanie Trice Gill
Westbrook

J. Ferguson Studios

Jenn Ferguson
Lisbon Falls

J.Brown & Son's Trucking LLC

Joseph Brown
Milo

Jackson Enterprises LLC
David Jackson
Rockport

Jenny Ingwersen Counseling
Jenny Ingwersen
Portland

Jenny O'Dell, Imt
Jenny O'Dell
Eliot

Kennedy Plumbing
Joseph Kennedy
Ripley

Kolbert Building
Dan Kolbert
Portland

Lippincott Books
William Lippincott
Hampden

Lubec Brewing Company
McGinley Jones
Lubec

Maine Antique Digest
Kate Pennington
Waldoboro

Maine Coast Roast
Holly Ayoob
Biddeford

Maine Meat
Shannon Hill
Kittery

Maine Mother + Company
Nicole Hart
Brunswick

Marlaina's Confections
Brandy M Staples
Phippsburg

MDI Imported Car Service, Inc.
David White
Bar Harbor

MicroServices
Phillip Neal
Harborside

Midcoast Barge Works
Tim Barker
Belfast

Mile store
Omar Atteyeh
Lewiston

New Pioneer LLC
Rachel Phipps
Sanford

OneLove HomeCare, LLC
Leopold Ndayisabye
Scarborough

Osher Environment Systems
Laurie Osher
Orono

Patricia Kidder (self-employed)
Patty Kidder
Sanford

Peacefulsong Doula & Education
Abby Pitts
Limington

Peony Doula Co., LLC
Hannah Lord
Portland

Pinetree Family Chiropractic
Johanna Hill
Yarmouth

Portland Flea for All

Erin Kiley
Portland

Prevention. Action. Change.

Clara Porter
Portland

pumpspotting

Amy VanHaren
Eliot

Rainbow Bicycle

John Grenier
Lewiston

Rainbow Toys

Juliette Steinbach
Falmouth

RBF Studio

Anna Masciadri
Augusta

Rebel Pet

Denielle Burns
Portland

Red Roots Midwifery

Abby Luca
Fryeburg

Ritual bakehouse and patisserie

April Robinson
Brunswick

Rosignols hair shoppe

Shelby Jackson
Brunswick

Rover Bagel

Kimberly Rutter
Biddeford

RT Farm and Feed

Wayne Lagasse

Winthrop

Sarah Jane Photography

Sarah Truman
Saco

Sasha Lees

Sasha Vurnakes
Lewiston

Scperrine Painting

Stephen Perrine
Woolwich

Self Employed

Andrew Favreau
Yarmouth

Souped Up

Michael Giddens
Gorham

Stephanie Perkins Clifford, LLC

Stephanie Clifford
Cape Elizabeth

Stephen Dacey Psychotherapy, LLC

Steve Dacey
Portland

Sweetcream LLC

Jonathan Denton
Biddeford

Tayla Mac Boutique

Mikayla Conte
Kittery

The Booktenders

Rick Clarke
York

The Haredresser Styling Studio

Lelia Carroll
Kennebunk

The Merchant Co

Kit Flynn & John Russell
Portland

The Mix

Leslie Beattie
Brunswick

The Posh Pups

John Flaherty-Stanford
Portland

Upstream Strategies

Cara Courchesne
LEWISTON

Veneer Services Unlimited

John Costin
Sanford

WELL-HOUSED

Stefanie Otto
Kennebunk

WellSpace Maine

Lindy Graham
Portland

wilderbydesign

Amy Files
Rockland

Wine House on Main

Betsy Ross
Kennebunk

Yes Books

Charles Sargent
Portland

Yesterdays

Joseph Luciano
Kennebunk