

# Labor and Public Employees Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-228

AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYEES' LOSS OF HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

**Title:** AS A RESULT OF A LABOR DISPUTE.

**Vote Date:** 3/21/2023

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 1/31/2023

**File No.:**

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Labor and Public Employees Committee

### REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill is intended to ensure that employees who are engaged in a labor dispute are not faced with a loss of health care coverage as the result of said labor dispute, by allowing them a special enrollment period to purchase health insurance through Access Health CT.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

There was no response from the administration or relevant agencies.

### NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

**Martin Looney, State Senate President Pro Tempore, SDO:** Supports this bill because employees should be able to strike for fairer wages and better working conditions without the risk of losing health benefits that may be critical to them or their families.

**John Brady, Executive Vice President, AFT Connecticut:** Supports this bill because it would give employees the opportunity to have health care coverage in the event of a labor dispute. Comments that health care workers who strike with the purpose of improving safety standards should not have to worry about being covered by health insurance.

**Ed Hawthorne, President, Connecticut AFL-CIO:** Supports this bill because employees who stand up for themselves to defend their rights should not have to fear losing health care coverage. Comments that it reassures employees and their families when a strike takes place that they will not go uninsured.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

No sources of opposition were provided.

**Reported by: Gabriel Marques, Assistant Clerk      Date: 3/23/23**