



News from

Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego — District Three

NEWS RELEASE

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Hourly City Employees Start Earning Sick Leave Tomorrow

Lifeguards and Staff in Libraries and Recreation Centers Provided Sick Leave

SAN DIEGO, CA (June 30, 2015) – Hourly city employees, many of whom work directly with the public, will start earning sick leave tomorrow, Councilmember Todd Gloria announced.

Assembly Bill 1522 (A.B. 1522), the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014, authored by Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, goes into effect statewide July 1 to allow all employees to earn up to three sick days annually. Earlier this year, Councilmember Gloria successfully championed three measures to implement the law for city employees.

“Providing earned sick leave is the right thing to do as a responsible employer; the city respects our employees and the people we serve,” said Councilmember Gloria. **“Allowing city employees to earn sick leave is a good investment that help ensure their continued ability to serve the public in a healthy and productive way.”**

A.B. 1522 entitles individuals working in California for 30 or more days within a year to paid sick leave of no less than one hour for every 30 worked. As a charter city, San Diego had to take steps including meeting and conferring with its employee organizations in order to implement earned sick leave. Councilmember Gloria developed the implementation proposal for municipal employees.

Most city employees earn annual leave which can be used for either vacation or sick time. Over 1,300 city employees, including recreation leaders, seasonal lifeguards, and library staff, were not eligible for annual leave and will now benefit from sick leave through the implementation of A.B. 1522.

Councilmember Gloria championed the successful approval last year of a measure that increased San Diego’s minimum wage to \$11.50 per hour and provided earned sick leave of up to five days per year. Corporate interests challenged the compromise measure through a referendum, forcing the item onto the June 2016 ballot. While that implementation is paused, Assemblywoman Gonzalez secured three earned sick days statewide. For more about the new law: www.CAPaidSickDays.com.

The Department of Financial Management has estimated that implementation of up to 24 hours of paid sick leave to hourly, non-benefitted City employees will have a financial impact of approximately \$471,284 per fiscal year.

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