Unleash Local to Protect Our Communities

The state of Louisiana currently bans cities and parishes from setting many of their own sick leave and wage policies. (This type of ban is called “preemption.”)

What is Unleash Local?

Unleash Local is a statewide campaign to support a House Bill 797 in the 2020 Louisiana legislative session that would repeal the state ban on sick leave policies.

Why do we need local control?

Dense cities like New Orleans are uniquely vulnerable to outbreaks like the coronavirus because they host millions of visitors from all over the world every year. If the entire state is going to be able to contain this and future outbreaks, our cities need to be able make it possible for sick workers to stay home and access medical care.

Why does this matter to your constituents?

- Paid sick leave has been shown to reduce the spread of respiratory infections

- The 242,000 Louisianans who work in the tourism and hospitality industry are being particularly hard hit by the pandemic and need immediate financial relief to avoid a wave of bankruptcies and evictions

- The ban on local paid sick leave policies forces workers to choose between their paychecks and the health of themselves, their families, and their communities

• 54% of Louisiana residents do not have savings to cover an unexpected emergency or medical bill\textsuperscript{2}

• 45% do not have access to paid leave when they get sick

\textsuperscript{2}https://issuu.com/louisianaassociationofunitedway/docs/18uw_alice_report_la_-_used_for_iss?e=22574709/66844506