

Council lobbies against family leave legislation

By [THOMAS ADAMS](#)

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The Business Council of New York State Inc. and other business groups including the Unshackle Upstate coalition are asking Business Council members to lobby against state legislation that would provide disability benefits to workers for as many as 12 weeks of leave to attend to family issues.

The New York State chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business, the Chamber Alliance of New York State and the New York Main Street Small Business Coalition also oppose the legislation, the Business Council said in a statement released Wednesday.

The legislation—S-5791 in the state Senate and A-8742 in the Assembly—would impede businesses in their attempts to manage work force needs while conducting business, the Business Council said.

The legislation would affect a company's bottom line and encourage absenteeism, disrupting work schedules, forcing employers to fill gaps with overtime imposed on other workers, and result in the loss of business opportunities, the statement said.

The Business Council has set up an online system to send messages to legislative representatives at www.bcnys.org.