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NEWS RELEASE

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Council sets out principles for paid leave policy *National standard must be practical, voluntary, uniform, flexible*

WASHINGTON, DC – In [a December 6 letter](#) to the U.S. House of Representatives Education and the Workforce Committee, the American Benefits Council voiced its support for a single, national, voluntary standard regarding paid time off.

“Such a standard would enable companies to design uniform programs that benefit their employees and their families across the country,” wrote Lynn Dudley, Council senior vice president, global retirement and compensation policy.

As the letter notes, the vast majority of large employees already provide paid leave and the recent surge in state and local paid leave mandates has imposed burdens on these companies – particularly those with operations in multiple states and localities.

“By having the option of a single, national standard for paid leave, [employers] can treat all their employees equally, rather than on a fragmented, jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis. Companies need programs that fit what have become increasingly mobile workforces,” Dudley wrote.

For more information on retirement policy matters, or to arrange an interview with Dudley, contact Jason Hammersla, Council vice president, communications, at jhammersla@abcstaff.org or by phone at 202-289-6700 (office) or (202) 422-4652 (cell).

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The American Benefits Council is the national trade association for companies concerned about federal legislation and regulations affecting all aspects of the employee benefits system. The Council's members represent the entire spectrum of the private employee benefits community and either sponsor directly or administer retirement and health plans covering more than 100 million Americans.