#### SELF-INSURANCE DECLARATION

The purpose of this declaration is to provide documentation of a self-insured plan commencing on or before January 1, 2022 to support a request for private plan exemption from the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority (Authority) for the provision of paid leave benefits under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-490.

#### 1. Employer's Name, Address, and Contact:

- a. [name of employer]
- b. [address]
- c. Contact:
  - i. [name]
  - ii. [email address]
  - iii. [phone number]
- 2. The employer acknowledges that it is required to amend its self-insured plan document to conform to the requirements of a Self-Insurance Plan Filing Guidance Notice that will be issued by the CT Paid Leave Authority and to provide a copy of that amended document to the CT Paid Leave Authority.

### 3. The Administrator of the self-insured plan will be

- a. [name of employer or third-party administrator]
- b. [address]
- c. Contact:
  - i. [name]
  - ii. [email address]
  - iii. [phone number]
- d. TPA Contract Number if applicable: [insert]

#### 4. Certification by Employer

The Employer certifies that it will provide self-insured coverage to the Employer's covered individuals for benefits under CT PFML Law.

The Employer certifies that has sufficient financial resources to pay claims and adequate benefits claims administration to assure that employees have access to benefits as they would if they participated in the public plan.

The Employer understands and agrees that a self-insured plan document must be filed with the CT Paid Leave Authority within 60 days following issuance of the Self Insured Plan Filing Guidance Notice that identifies the standards and provisions that a PFML policy must contain to be consistent with the Authority standards for an acceptable CT PFML self-insured plan document.

The Employer certifies that the self-insured plan document that is filed will comply with all requirements of the CT PFML Law including but not limited to the self-insured plan requirements listed below.

The Employer agrees that it will furnish a surety bond to the CT Paid Leave Authority in an amount and form required by the Ct Paid Leave Authority

## 5. Acknowledgement by Employer

The Employer acknowledges and understands that if this self-insured plan document is not in force on January 1, 2022, the employer will be responsible for contributions pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-49g, retroactive to January 1, 2021, and furthermore, the Employer may not collect retroactive contributions from covered employees to satisfy this requirement.

[Employer]			
By its duly authorized re	epresentative,		
[Name]		[Date]	
[Title]			

# Self-Insured Plan Requirements

Requirement	Statute Section	Relevant Language
The private plan shall meet	Sec. 31-49o(a)(1)	
all criteria defined in Section		Sec. 31-49o(a)(1) Employers
31-49o(a)(1).		may apply to the authority for
, , , ,		approval to meet their
		obligations under sections 31-
		49e to 31-49t, inclusive,
		through a private plan, which
		the authority shall evaluate in
		coordination with the
		Insurance Department, as
		appropriate. To be approved
		as meeting an employer's
		obligations under sections 31-
		49e to 31-49t, inclusive, a
		private plan must (A) confer all of the same rights,
		all of the same rights, protections and benefits
		provided to employees under
		said sections, including by
		providing (i) at least the same
		number of weeks of benefits;
		(ii) at least the same level of
		wage replacement for each of
		those weeks; and (iii) benefits
		in each circumstance specified
		in subdivision (2) of
		subsection (a) of section 31-
		51 <i>ll</i> or in subsection (i) of said
		section or section 31-51ss; (B)
		impose no additional
		conditions or restriction on the
		use of family or medical leave
		beyond those explicitly
		authorized by said sections or
		by regulations issued pursuant
		to sections 31-49f to 31-49t or
		to section 31-51qq; (C) cost
		employees no more than the
		premium charged to
		employees under the state
		program; (D) provide
		coverage for all employees

		throughout their period of employment; (E) provide for the inclusion of future employees; (F) not result in a substantial selection of risks adverse to the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust or otherwise significantly endanger the solvency of the fund; (G) have been approved by a majority vote of the employer's employees; and (H) meet any additional requirements established by the authority.
If a private plan is offered through self-insurance, the employer shall issue a bond running to the state with a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Connecticut as surety in an amount required by the department.  If a private plan is insured, the forms of the policy shall be approved by Insurance Commissioner and issued by an insurer approved to issue such insurance in the State of Connecticut.	Sec. 31-49o(a)(2)	Sec. 31-49o(a)(2) In order to be approved as meeting an employer's obligations under sections 1 to 16, inclusive, of this act, a private plan shall also comply with the following provisions: (A) If the private plan is in the form of self-insurance, the employer shall furnish a bond running to the state, with a surety company authorized to transact business in the state as surety, in such form as may be approved by the authority and in such amount as may be required by the department; and (B) if the plan provides for insurance, the forms of the policy shall have been approved by the Insurance Commissioner and be issued by an approved insurer.
Plan shall provide coverage for all employees working in Connecticut throughout their period of employment	Sec. 31-49o(a)(1)(D)	Sec. 31-49o(a)(1) Employers may apply to the authority for approval to meet their obligations under sections 31-49e to 31-49t, inclusive, through a private plan, which the authority shall evaluate in

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		coordination with the
		Insurance Department, as
		appropriate. To be approved
		as meeting an employer's
		obligations under sections 31-
		49e to 31-49t, inclusive, a
		private plan must (D)
		1
		provide coverage for all
		employees throughout their
		period of employment
Plan shall provide for	Sec 31-49o(a)(1)(E)	Sec. 31-49o(a)(1) Employers
inclusion of future employees		may apply to the authority for
		approval to meet their
		obligations under sections 31-
		49e to 31-49t, inclusive,
		through a private plan, which
		the authority shall evaluate in
		coordination with the
		Insurance Department, as
		-
		appropriate. To be approved
		as meeting an employer's
		obligations under sections 31-
		49e to 31-49t, inclusive, a
		private plan must (E)
		provide for the inclusion of
		future employees;
Plan shall provide for	Sec. 31-49o(a)(1)(A) & (F)	Sec. 31-49o(a)(1) Employers
coverage of any former		may apply to the authority for
employee who had been	Sec 31-49e(4)(B)	approval to meet their
employed by an employer for		obligations under sections 31-
12 weeks from the date of	Sec 31-49e(2)	49e to 31-49t, inclusive,
separation or until the	Sec 31 136(2)	through a private plan, which
-	Sec 31-49e(16)	the authority shall evaluate in
individual is employed by a	Sec 31-49e(10)	1
new employer, whichever		coordination with the
comes first.		Insurance Department, as
		appropriate. To be approved
		as meeting an employer's
		obligations under sections 31-
		49e to 31-49t, inclusive, a
		private plan must (A) confer
		all of the same rights,
		protections and benefits
		provided to employees under
		said sections, including by
		providing (i) at least the same
		number of weeks of benefits;
		number of weeks of benefits;

(ii) at least the same level of wage replacement for each of those weeks; and (iii) benefits in each circumstance specified in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 31-51*ll* or in subsection (i) of said section or section 31-51ss; ..... (F) not result in a substantial selection of risks adverse to the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust or otherwise significantly endanger the solvency of the fund; Sec 31-49e(2) "Base period" means the first four of the five most recently completed quarters; Sec. 31-49e(16) "Subject earnings" means total wages, as defined in subsection (b) of section 31-222 and selfemployment income as defined in 26 USC 1402(b), as amended from time to time, that shall not exceed the Social Security contribution and benefit base, as determined pursuant to 42 USC 430, as amended from time to time, provided selfemployment income shall be included only if the recipient has enrolled in the program pursuant to section 31-49m. The entity offering the private "Employer" means a person plan shall be an "employer" Sec. 31-49e(8) engaged in any activity, as defined in the statute in Sec. 31-51kk(4) enterprise or business who Sec. 31-49e(8) and Sec. 31employs one or more 51kk(4) employees, and includes any person who acts, directly or indirectly, in the interest of an employer to any of the

		employees of such employer and any successor in interest of an employer. "Employer" does not mean the federal government, the state or a municipality, a local or regional board of education or a nonpublic elementary or secondary school, except that the state, a municipal employer or local or regional board of education is an employer with respect to each of its covered public employees;
Plan shall define "employee" as it is defined in the statute in Sec 31-49e(7) and Sec. 31-51kk(3)	Sec. 31-49e(7) Sec 31-51kk(3)	"Employee" means an individual engaged in service to an employer in this state in the business of the employer;
Plan shall define "employ", as defined in the statute in in Sec 31-49e(6) and Sec. 31-	Sec. 31-49e(6)	"Employ" means to allow or permit to work;
Plan shall define "health care provider" as defined in the	Sec. 31-51kk(2) Sec. 31-49e(13)	Sec. 31-49e(13) "Health care provider" has the same
statute in Sec. 31-49e(13) and Sec. 31-55kk(9)	Sec. 31-51kk(9)	meaning as provided in section 31-51kk of the general statutes;
		Sec. 31-51kk(9)"Health care provider" means (A) a doctor of medicine or osteopathy who is authorized to practice medicine or surgery by the state in which the doctor
		practices; (B) a podiatrist, dentist, psychologist, optometrist or chiropractor authorized to practice by the
		state in which such person practices and performs within the scope of the authorized practice; (C) an advanced practice registered nurse,

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		nurse practitioner, nurse
		midwife or clinical social
		worker authorized to practice
		by the state in which such
		person practices and performs
		within the scope of the
		authorized practice; (D)
		Christian Science
		practitioners listed with the
		First Church of Christ,
		Scientist in Boston,
		Massachusetts; (E) any health
		care provider from whom an
		employer or a group health
		plan's benefits manager will
		accept certification of the
		existence of a serious health
		condition to substantiate a
		claim for benefits; (F) a
		health care provider as
		defined in subparagraphs (A)
		to (E), inclusive, of this
		subdivision who practices in
		a country other than the
		United States, who is licensed
		to practice in accordance with
		the laws and regulations of
		that country; or (G) such
		other health care provider as
		the Labor Commissioner
		determines, performing
		within the scope of the
		authorized practice. The
		commissioner may utilize any
		determinations made pursuant
		to chapter 568;
Plan shall define "person" as		"Person" means one or more
defined in the statute in Sec.	Sec. 31-49e(14)	individuals, partnerships,
31-49e(14) and Sec. 31-	Sec 31-51kk(11)	associations, corporations,
51kk(11)	500 51 51RR(11)	limited liability companies,
		business trusts, legal
		representatives, or any
		-
Dlan shall define	Co. 21 511-1-(5)	organized group of persons;
Plan shall define	Sec. 31-51kk(5)	Sec. 31-51kk(5)
"employment benefits" as all		"Employment benefits"
benefits provided or made		means all benefits provided

available by an amployer as		or made available to
available by an employer, as		
listed in the statute in Sec. 31-		employees by an employer,
51kk(5)		including group life
		insurance, health insurance,
		disability insurance, sick
		leave, annual leave,
		educational benefits and
		pensions, regardless of
		whether such benefits are
		provided by practice or
		written policy of an employer
		or through an "employee
		benefit plan", as defined in
		Section 1002(3) of Title 29 of
		the United States Code;
Plan shall cover serious		Sec. 31-49e(15)"Serious
health conditions and shall	Sec. 31 40e(15)	health condition" has the
	Sec. 31-49e(15)	
define "serious health	0 21 5111 (12)	same meaning as provided in
condition" as defined in the	Sec. 31-51kk(13)	section 31-51kk of the
statute in Sec 31-49e(15) and		general statutes
Sec 31-51kk(13)		Sec. 31-51kk(13) "Serious
		health condition" means an
		illness, injury, impairment, or
		physical or mental condition
		that involves (A) inpatient
		care in a hospital, hospice,
		nursing home or residential
		medical care facility; or (B)
		continuing treatment,
		including outpatient
		treatment, by a health care
		provider;
Plan shall offer paid family	Sec. 31-49o(a)(1)(a)	Sec. 31-49o(a)(1) Employers
and medical leave	Sec. 31 170(a)(1)(a)	may apply to the authority for
compensation for the same	Sec. 31-49g(a)	approval to meet their
duration and under the same	Sec. 31-49g(a)	obligations under sections 31-
conditions as the Paid Family		49e to 31-49t, inclusive,
and Medical Leave Insurance		through a private plan, which
Authority, pursuant to the		the authority shall evaluate in
statute		coordination with the
		Insurance Department, as
		appropriate. To be approved
		as meeting an employer's
		obligations under sections 31-
		49e to 31-49t, inclusive, a
		private plan must (A) confer

all of the same rights, protections and benefits provided to employees under said sections, including by providing (i) at least the same number of weeks of benefits; (ii) at least the same level of wage replacement for each of those weeks; and (iii) benefits in each circumstance specified in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 31-51*ll* or in subsection (i) of said section or section 31-51ss::. Sec.31-49g(a) The Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority shall establish and administer the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program to provide up to twelve weeks of family and medical leave compensation to covered employees during any twelvemonth period, as well as two additional weeks of compensation to a covered employee for a serious health condition resulting in incapacitation that occurs during a pregnancy. Plan shall not require **Sec. 31-490.** (a)(1) employees to contribute to Employers may apply to the Sec. 31-49o(a)(1)(C)the private plan an amount authority for approval to meet that exceeds the percentage of their obligations under Sec. 31-49g(b)(1)their subject earnings for that sections 31-49e to 31-49t, employer in amounts and in a Sec. 31-49g(b)(3)inclusive, through a private manner defined by the statute. plan, which the authority shall evaluate in coordination with the Insurance Plan shall provide that the employer incurs the Department, as appropriate. obligation to make To be approved as meeting an contributions on January 1, employer's obligations under 2021, however, the Plan may sections 31-49e to 31-49t,

determine the manner, form, and frequency by which the employer transmits the contributions to the Plan inclusive, a private plan must ... (C) cost employees no more than the premium charged to employees under the state program; (

Sec. 31-49g(b) (1) Beginning on January 1, 2021, but not later than February 1, 2021, each employee and each selfemployed individual or sole proprietor who has enrolled in the program pursuant to section 9 of this act shall contribute a percentage of his or her subject earnings that shall not exceed the Social Security contribution and benefit base, as determined pursuant to 42 USC 430, as amended from time to time, to the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust Fund. Such percentage shall be established by the authority, provided that the percentage shall not exceed one-half of one per cent;

Sec. 31-49g(b)(3) Each employer making payment of any wages to an employee shall deduct and withhold from such wages for each payroll period a contribution computed in such manner as to result, so far as practicable, in withholding from the employee's wages during each calendar year an amount substantially equivalent to the contribution reasonably estimated to be due from the employee under this subsection with respect to the

amount of such wages during the calendar year. Plan shall provide leave and Sec. 31-49o(a)(1)(A) **Sec. 31-49o**(a)(1) Employers benefits to covered Sec. 31-49g(c)(1)may apply to the authority for employees for at least twelve approval to meet their weeks in any twelve-month obligations under sections 31period taken for conditions 49e to 31-49t, inclusive, defined in subdivision (2) of through a private plan, which subsection (a) of section 31the authority shall evaluate in 51ll, as amended by Public coordination with the Act 19-25, or subsection (i) Insurance Department, as of said section or section 31appropriate. To be approved 51ss of the general statutes, as meeting an employer's as well as for at least two obligations under sections 31additional weeks for a serious 49e to 31-49t, inclusive, a health condition resulting in private plan must (A) confer incapacitation that occurs all of the same rights, during pregnancy; protections and benefits provided to employees under said sections, including by Plan may determine how to calculate the 12-month period providing (i) at least the same provided that it shall utilize number of weeks of benefits; one of the four methods set (ii) at least the same level of forth in Sec. 31-5111(a)(1) in wage replacement for each of doing so. those weeks; and (iii) benefits in each circumstance Plan shall provide that the specified in subdivision (2) of obligation to make benefit subsection (a) of section 31payments is incurred no later 51*ll* or in subsection (i) of than January 1, 2022. said section or section 31-51ss; Sec. 31-49g(c)(1) Beginning on January 1, 2022, but not later than February 1, 2022, covered employees shall receive compensation under this section for up to twelve weeks of leave in any twelvemonth period taken for one or more of the reasons listed in subdivision (2) of subsection

(a) of section 31-51ll of the general statutes, as amended

by this act, or subsection (i) of said section or section 31-51ss of the general statutes, as well as for two additional weeks for a serious health condition resulting in incapacitation that occurs during a pregnancy Sec. 31-51ll(a)(1) Subject to section 31-51mm, an eligible employee shall be entitled to a total of twelve workweeks of leave during any twelvemonth period, such twelvemonth period to be determined utilizing any one of the following methods: (A) A calendar year; (B) any fixed twelve-month period, such as a fiscal year or a twelve-month period measured forward from an employee's first date of employment; (C) a twelvemonth period measured forward from an employee's first day of leave taken under sections 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive; or (D) a rolling twelve-month period measured backward from an employee's first day of leave taken under sections 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive. Such employee may take up to two additional weeks of leave during such twelve-month period for a serious health condition resulting in incapacitation that occurs during a pregnancy. Plan shall offer Sec. 31-49g(c)(2) The weekly compensation in an amount Sec. 31-49g(c)(2)compensation offered to no less than the amounts covered employees shall be defined in the statutes in equal to ninety-five per cent

Section 31-49g(c)(2), provided that the employee's compensation shall be based upon the employee's base weekly earnings for that employer		of the covered employee's base weekly earnings up to an amount equal to forty times the minimum fair wage, as defined in section 31-58 of the general statutes, and sixty per cent of that covered employee's base weekly earnings above an amount equal to forty times the minimum fair wage, except that the total weekly compensation shall not exceed an amount equal to sixty times the minimum fair wage. Compensation shall be available on a prorated basis.
Plan shall provide a covered employee with the option to have income tax withheld from their paid family and medical leave compensation and withheld in a manner consistent with state law.	Sec. 31-49g(c)(4)	Sec. 31-49g(c)(4) If a covered worker elects to have income tax deducted and withheld from his or her compensation, the amount specified shall be deducted and withheld in a manner consistent with state law.
Plan shall comply with Sec. 31-49g(d) regarding compensation for two spouses employed by the same employer.	Sec. 31-49g(d)	(d) Notwithstanding subsection (g) of section 31-51ll of the general statutes, two spouses employed by the same employer shall each be eligible for up to twelve weeks of compensation under this section in any twelve-month period. Such eligibility for compensation shall not increase their eligibility for job protected leave beyond the number of weeks specified in said subsection;
Plan shall comply with statutory and regulatory requirements regarding the availability of intermittent and reduced schedule leave.	Sec. 31-49g(e) Sec. 31-51ll(a) through (c)	Sec. 31-49g(e) A covered employee may receive compensation under this section for nonconsecutive hours of leave.

Sec. 31-5111 a)(1) Subject to section 31-51mm, an eligible employee shall be entitled to a total of twelve workweeks of leave during any twelve-month period, such twelve-month period ... (2) Leave under this subsection may be taken for one or more of the following reasons: (A) Upon the birth of a son or daughter of the employee; (B) Upon the placement of a son or daughter with the employee for adoption or foster care; (C) In order to care for a family member of the employee, if such family member has a serious health condition; (D) Because of a serious health condition of the employee;(E) In order to serve as an organ or bone marrow donor; or (F) Because of any qualifying exigency, determined in regulations adopted by the United States Secretary of Labor, arising out of the fact that the spouse, son, daughter or parent of the employee is on active duty, or has been notified of impending call or order to active duty, in the armed forces, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103.

- (b) Entitlement to leave under subparagraph (A) or (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section may accrue prior to the birth or placement of a son or daughter when such leave is required because of such impending birth or placement.
- (c) (1) Leave under subparagraph (A) or (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section for the birth or

placement of a son or daughter may not be taken by an employee intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule unless the employee and the employer agree otherwise. Subject to subdivision (2) of this subsection concerning an alternative position, subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of this section concerning the duties of the employee and subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of section 31-51mm concerning sufficient certification, leave under subparagraph (C) or (D) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) or under subsection (i) of this section for a serious health condition may be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule when medically necessary. The taking of leave intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule pursuant to this subsection shall not result in a reduction of the total amount of leave to which the employee is entitled under subsection (a) of this section beyond the amount of leave actually taken.

(2) If an employee requests intermittent leave or leave on a reduced leave schedule under subparagraph (C), (D) or (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) or under subsection (i) of this section that is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, the employer may require the employee to transfer temporarily available alternative position offered by the employer for which the employee is qualified and that (A) has equivalent pay and benefits, and (B) better accommodates recurring periods of leave than the regular employment position

		of the employee, provided the exercise of this authority shall not conflict with any provision of a collective bargaining agreement between such employer and a labor organization which is the collective bargaining representative of the unit of which the employee is a part.
Plan shall allow for a covered employee to receive benefits concurrent with any other employer-provided employment benefit, but the compensation shall not exceed the employee's regular rate of compensation	Sec. 31-49g(f) 3	Sec. 31-49g(f) A covered employee may receive compensation under this section concurrently with any employer-provided employment benefits, provided the total compensation of such covered employee during such period of leave shall not exceed such covered employee's regular rate of compensation.
Plan shall not allow covered employee to receive benefits concurrent with Workers Compensation or Unemployment benefits	Sec. 31-49g(g)	Sec. 31-49g(g) No covered employee shall receive compensation under this section concurrently with compensation under chapter 567 or 568 of the general statutes or any other state or federal program that provides wage replacement.
Employer shall agree to sign an acknowledgment that approval for its plan may be withdrawn for violating the terms and conditions of the statute, including but not limited to those conditions listed in the Section (Sec. 11 (b))	Sec. 11 (b)	(b) Approval for a private plan granted under subsection (a) of this section may be withdrawn when terms or conditions of the plan have been violated. Causes for plan termination include, but shall not be limited to, the following: (1) Failure to pay benefits; (2) failure to pay benefits timely and in a manner consistent with the public plan; (3) failure to maintain an adequate security deposit as described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section; (4) misuse of private plan

		funds; (5) failure to submit reports as required; or (6) failure to comply with sections 1 to 16, inclusive, of this act.
Employee contributions shall not be increased except on the anniversary of the effective date of the private plan or within thirty days of after the state adjusts the contribution rate.	Sec. 31-49o(c)	Sec. 31-490(c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of section 3 of this act, employees enrolled in an approved private plan shall not contribute a percentage of their earnings to the Family and Medical Leave Trust Fund.  Notwithstanding section 31-71e of the general statutes, an employer may withhold or divert up to the portion of an employee's wages that corresponds to the contribution rate established pursuant to subsection (b) of section 3 of this act for the purpose of administering an approved private plan. The amount of wages withheld or diverted for such purpose shall not be increased, except on the anniversary of the effective date of the private plan or within thirty days after the state adjusts the contribution rate.
Plan shall include language that informs the employee that they retain all rights outlined in sections 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive	Sec. 31-49o(d)	Sec. 31-49o(d) An employee covered by a private plan approved under this section shall retain all applicable rights under sections 31-51kk to 3151qq, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act.
Plan shall provide for an appeals process that the employee shall utilize before	Sec. 31-490(a)(1)(H) Sec. 31-490(e)	Sec. 31-49o(a)(1) Employers may apply to the authority for approval to meet their
exercising the right of appeal pursuant to Sec. 31-49p and shall include language that	Sec. 31-49p	obligations under sections 31-49e to 31-49t, inclusive, through a private plan, which

acknowledges that a denial of family or medical leave benefits by a private plan is subject to administrative appeal and appeal to the Superior Court. the authority shall evaluate in coordination with the Insurance Department, as appropriate. To be approved as meeting an employer's obligations under sections 31-49e to 31-49t, inclusive, a private plan must ... (H) meet any additional requirements established by the authority.

Sec. 31-49o(e) A denial of family or medical leave benefits by a private plan shall be subject to administrative appeal and appeal to the Superior Court as provided by section 31-49p.

Sec. 31-49p Any covered employee aggrieved by a denial of compensation under the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program or any person aggrieved by the imposition of a penalty imposed pursuant to section 31-49r may file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner. Upon receipt of any such complaint, the commissioner shall hold a hearing. After the hearing, the commissioner shall send each party a written copy of the commissioner's decision. The commissioner may award the covered employee or person all appropriate relief, including any compensation or benefits to which the employee otherwise would have been eligible if such denial had not occurred. Any party aggrieved by the decision of the commissioner may appeal the decision to the Superior Court in accordance

		with the provisions of chapter 54.
Plan shall define "family member", "grandchild", "grandparent", "parent", "person", "sibling", "son or daughter" and "spouse" in a manner identical to the statute	Sec. 31-51kk (6), (7), (8), (10), (11), (14), (15), (16)	Sec. 31-51kk(6) "Family member" means a spouse, sibling, son or daughter, grandparent, grandchild or parent, or an individual related to the employee by blood or affinity whose close association the employee shows to be the equivalent of those family relationships; (7) "Grandchild" means a grandchild related to a person by (A) blood, (B) marriage, (C) adoption by a child of the grandparent, or (D) foster care by a child of the grandparent related to a person by (A) blood, (B) marriage, (C) adoption of a minor child by a child of the grandparent, or (D) foster care by a child of the grandparent, or (D) foster care by a child of the grandparent, or (D) foster care by a child of the grandparent, adoptive parent, foster parent, adoptive parent, stepparent, parent-in-law or legal guardian of an eligible employee or an eligible employee's spouse, an individual standing in loco parentis to an eligible employee when the employee was a child; (11) "Person" means one or more individuals, partnerships, associations, corporations, business trusts, legal representatives, or organized groups of persons;

(14) "Sibling" means a brother
or sister related to a person by
(A) blood, (B) marriage, (C)
adoption by a parent of the
person, or (D) foster care
placement;
(15) "Son or daughter" means a
biological, adopted or foster
child, stepchild, legal ward, or,
in the alternative, a child of a
person standing in loco parentis,
or an individual to whom the
employee stood in loco parentis
when the individual was a child;
and
(16) "Spouse" means a person
to whom one is legally married.