## (AS OF SENATE 2ND READING 3/15/05)

Declares it to be in the public interest to establish a program that: (1) Allows parents to bond with a newborn or newly placed child, and workers to care for seriously ill family members;

- (2) Is in addition to those programs offered by employers whether voluntary or required by federal or state family leave laws;
- (3) Provides limited income support for a reasonable period while an individual is away from work on family leave; and
- (4) Reduces the impact on state income support programs by increasing an individual's ability to provide caregiving services for family members while maintaining an employment relationship.

Requires that, beginning September 1, 2006, the department shall report to the legislature by July 1st of each year on projected and actual program participation, premium rates, fund balances, and outreach efforts.