



Ekonomikas ministrija  
*Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia*

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Rīga

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**Estonian Health Insurance Fund**  
[info@tervisekassa.ee](mailto:info@tervisekassa.ee)

*For information:*

**Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs**  
[info@sm.ee](mailto:info@sm.ee)

**Estonian Health Board**  
[info@terviseamet.ee](mailto:info@terviseamet.ee)

*Information request about sick leaves*

The Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia is working with industry associations on measures to reduce administrative and financial burden in order to strengthen and improve the business-friendly environment.

Currently, the Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia is working on the issue of payment, issuance and control of sick leaves (only standard sick leaves not including sick leaves for taking care of a sick child or occupational diseases).

In order to compare the sick leave systems of Latvia and Estonia, could you please provide the following data and information:

- Data about initial period of sick leave** covered by the employer (from the fourth to the eighth day):
  - what are the employer's expenses in the last 3 years (monthly if possible);
  - how many such sick leaves are issued in the last 3 years, has the regularity of sick leaves on certain days or diagnoses been studied?
  - have the average employee replacements, overtime contributions in companies due to employee sick leaves been calculated?
- Data about the subsequent period of sick leave** covered by the state i.e., Health Insurance Fund (from day nine):

- what are the state expenses in the last 3 years (monthly if possible);
  - how many such sick leaves are issued in the last 3 years, has the regularity of sick leaves on certain days or diagnoses been studied?
- 3. Whether the profile of the long-term sick leave recipient has been studied (has the profile of the recipient of a long-term sick leave been studied (age, gender, occupation, industry, working in the public or private sector)?**
- 4. Sick leaves payment and control:**
- has Estonian model of sick leave been evaluated from government and business companies side and how the amount of compensation paid by the employer and the state was chosen?
  - how are the sick leaves controlled, is there an IT system that controls sick leaves (if such a system exists, what is the efficiency of the system), do you perform physical inspection of patients?
- 5. Do you think that the state's responsibility in the Estonian sick leave system is sufficient?** Have the possibilities been considered for the state to take on more responsibility, for example by increasing the number of days paid by the state for sick leaves by taking a day paid from the employer?

The Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia will greatly appreciate if the Estonian Health Insurance Fund can kindly prepare and submit the required information **by August 23**. If necessary, please contact to Jolanta Nalivaiko: [Jolanta.Nalivaiko@em.gov.lv](mailto:Jolanta.Nalivaiko@em.gov.lv).

We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Acting State Secretary, Deputy State Secretary

Ilze Beināre

The documents is signed with secure electronic signature

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