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Career Advice & News Center

New Jersey's family leave program helps workers have a work-home life balance

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While many Americans are trying tirelessly to find a work-home balance in order to fit everything into their busy schedule, some employers note the importance of setting aside time for family. As companies become more welcoming toward telecommuting, some individuals are able to do their work at home, giving them the best of both worlds. However, for some lucky individuals, there are even better work-home life packages that employers offer.

Jill Lubin, a chemist in New Jersey, was planning on taking time off to give birth to her second child, according to Asbury Park Press. Although she and her husband had been saving in anticipation for this time for a while, Lubin also received money from the state's paid family leave program.

The law was enacted one year ago, and it gives workers the financial support to leave their jobs in order to take care of a newborn baby or a sick family member. So far, the news provider reports that the program has experienced tremendous success.

"We had told our members, based on our research, there would not be a deluge of people taking the leave and it would not result in undue disruption of the workplace, and one year later that's exactly the case," said John Sarno, president of the Employers Association of New Jersey, a Livingston group that advises employers.

According to the state's Department of Labor and Workforce Development's website, the program allows benefits for up to six weeks for the worker to be able to bond with their newborn child or take care of a sick family member. There are three kinds of plans including state, private and family leave during unemployment.