

To: Chair Holvey, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Sosa and Members of the Committee

I want to express my strong support for House Bill 2800.

It is known that longevity is increasing and people are physically capable of working longer. But, there is concern that the supply of younger workers may not be sufficient to support this older population. It is also clear that the cost of living is rising dramatically and that many people must work longer in order to support themselves. Mandatory retirement age is no longer relevant.

I am a “woman of a certain age” and was a real estate broker for many years. There is no mandate for retirement in that profession and, consequently, many are able to work and earn long after “normal” retirement age. Unfortunately, that is not true for workers of all occupations.

I urge you to consider workers across the spectrum and identify their needs as they age. In order to get employers to agree to making positive changes, it may take an education campaign to show them how productive these older workers can be and how it can positively affect their bottom line.

Thank you.

Korleen Kraft
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