

February 4, 2023

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

My name is Joyce Zook, and I support HB 2800.

During my career I witnessed hiring practices that clearly discriminated against very capable and experienced older applicants in favor of new college graduates. I would like to see older individuals have the same tools to address age discrimination as people in other protected classes.

At one time in my employment, where I had been an employee for several years, the company hired a recent college graduate and instructed me to train that person in all areas of my responsibility. After training was completed, I was "let go", even though my annual evaluations were rave reviews of my work. At that time I was supporting my family, and it created a hardship for me and my family. It was clear that an inexperienced recent graduate would be offered a much lower salary. Perhaps with HB2800, employers would hesitate to engage in such a practice.

Thank you for moving this legislation forward!

Joyce Zook  
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