



Hello Oscar,

I would like to share this letter in support of SB 5511.

We wanted to let you know how we have appreciated the Preferred Worker program. On June 1, 2022, life changed for one of our workers, Alfredo Alvarado. He fell off a roof he was working on. The fall was about 9 feet, headfirst which caused a severe neck injury. Like many people in your line of work have observed this type of accident is just as traumatizing to the injured worker as to his entire family. This case was no different.

Many questions arose for him and his wife as how this was going to affect their lives. This anxiety caused much depression. As a company and co-worker, we wanted to do all we could to help them navigate through the doctors, physical therapy and finances on the way to some type of normalcy. We stayed in contact with Alfredo and his wife regularly, helping with everything we could and helping to answer a myriad of questions. We were helped by the EAIP program on finding ways to keep him busy at home during his time recuperating. We noticed that during these times he was encouraged and this fought off his depression. However, we saw him continuing to worry about the future and what he could do to provide for his family.

After more than 18 months of recuperation the day came to be released to modified work at our warehouse. Alfredo became even more anxious about his time back. He was worried about even seeing his co-workers again. Certainly, a difficult time for all involved.

As we were aware of the EAIP program coming to an end we were introduced to the Preferred Worker program. As a company we were worried as to how we could make a long-term job for Alfredo with his restrictions. The HR Manager and I only had a trivial knowledge of Preferred Worker program. We began to get educated on it and during this process we met you. As we began to share what we learned with Alfredo we saw a marked difference in his mental health.

The transition for Alfredo to go from an injured roofer to a warehouse assistant was remarkable. When the owner and superintendent explained the job offer, Alfredo was so happy. He and his entire family have responded to the relief this program brought them. The company too was so encouraged by the help and ideas you and the program provided us in creating a meaningful job for Alfredo and the company. The evolution for Alfredo has been

emotional at times but also wonderfully heartwarming. Gone are the days of difficult depression due to the injury and not knowing what the future even would look like to Alfredo and his family. Oscar, we thank you and we thank the value added and life changing program, Preferred Worker.

Your friends and compadres,

Pfeifer Roofing



Alfredo Alvarado 12/03/2024