

Tom Feusse, CEO of Wallick Communities, Employer Partner of Columbus Works, Inc.
House Finance Committee
April 15, 2021
Interested Party Testimony
House Bill 110

Chair Oelsluger, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Crawley, and members of the House Finance Committee. Thank you for your consideration of the Columbus Works amendment (HC1070) to House Bill 110.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you how important the Columbus Works program is from our perspective, as an employer partner.

Four years ago, we hired Steven Simpson to join our maintenance team at Wallick Communities. Unfortunately, often times people in these positions turnover quite frequently. However, in Steven's case he is now celebrating his fourth anniversary with Wallick. He has been a dedicated associate, and has been able to progress during his time with Wallick.

To us, the key to Steven's and Wallick's success is the Columbus Works program, live in action. We believe it's the Columbus Works program, and most importantly, the mentoring aspect, that has led to Steven's tenure. And while this is true for Steven, it's also true for others Wallick has hired through Columbus Works. Please know, we are most appreciative!

We have read that turnover for unskilled roles nationally is about 75% annually. That mirrors our experience at Wallick, particularly in our associates first year of employment. We are aware that Columbus Works members have turnover more in the 25% range annually. This difference is very significant, and provides a meaningful benefit to employers like Wallick. Thank you for the opportunity share Wallick Communities partnership with Columbus Works.