

Good afternoon. Thanks for having me here today.

My name is Aaron Seyedian and I'm the owner of Well-Paid Maids, a living-wage home cleaning company based in the county. We've been in business since 2017, have around 35 employees, and our office sits on Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park. All our staff make at least \$24 per hour to start and receive a full benefits package including 24 paid days off, health, dental, and vision insurance, and 100% employer-paid commuting costs.

I support this bill because as a Montgomery County small business we would appreciate being able to take advantage of the same funds as out-of-county businesses who want to relocate here. While attracting employers from elsewhere is important, I believe that supporting businesses that already located and grew here without incentives is equally important.

If I were able to access funds via the MOVE program, I would sign a lease for a bigger office as soon as possible. Our current space is small for our size and by increasing our square footage we could:

- Work more effectively as a management team
- Buy equipment and supplies in larger volumes for better pricing
- Host our cleaning staff regularly for company events

By realizing all of these benefits, my business would grow faster and I would be better able to continue our commitment to paying living wages and offering comprehensive benefits.

Without access to the MOVE program, I will likely still upgrade my space. But it will probably be years from now instead of this year. And, in the meantime, my business would not realize the above gains. Unfortunately, this means that we will grow more slowly, employ fewer people, and pay less in tax to the county over the next few years.

Thank you.