

May 1, 2023

Dear Chair Champion and Chair Xiong,

Thank you for including a direct appropriation for Project for Pride in Living in your respective Jobs, Economic Development, Labor, and Industry bill (SF 3035). We appreciate the time you, and many of the Committee Members have spent getting to know Project for Pride in Living, its participants, residents, and staff. Together, we are all able to make a difference in the lives of many and advance the needs of our community.

This Direct Appropriation allows us to expand our career pathway programs, as well as launch new and innovative programs, such as Diploma Connect, with allows participants to obtain a Standard Adult Diploma instead of a GED and developing new and sustainable training pathways directly with employer partners to fill area of high growth and high employer need.

The collaboration between community-based organizations, community advocates and legislators is a critical piece in the puzzle to provide services to our neighbors.

As a trusted and core provider of workforce services, PPL prides itself on our outcomes and metrics.

- 70% of people enrolling in our programs make \$20,000 or less a year. Upon successful completion and hire, they double that wage with an average of \$40,000 a year.
- Approximately 80% of the people we serve are people of color.
- 85% of our graduates have a 12-month retention rate with their new employer.
- In a Benefit-Cost Analysis conducted by Constellation Fund, every dollar invested through PPL's Career pathways results in \$9 of personal economic value, as well as decreased costs to public services in the future.

In short, we have a long track record of being a partner that delivers results for our participants and our community. We appreciate your support of this important work and investment in the communities of Project for Pride in Living.

Thank you for your support and we respectfully ask members to vote yes.

Sincerely,



Antonio Cardona
Vice President of Career Readiness
Project for Pride in Living

