

May 22, 2015

Dear Councilmember Mike Bonin:

I am Monica Zhang and I am a single mother living in West LA and I want share with you how home sharing has helped me.

I moved to Los Angeles four years ago from China because my daughter had heart problems and I wanted my daughter to have a better quality of life and get quality treatment for her heart surgery.

Now, my daughter is at UC Irvine and I want to stay close to her but juggle various gigs such as background, video shoots, and driving on Uber and home sharing to survive. I choose to stay in West Los Angeles because Los Angeles allows me to survive by picking multiple jobs. It is very difficult for me to find a job because my English is not very good, I am nearing the age of 50,

The money made sharing my home supports me survive; in addition pay for my daughter's college tuition, her bills, and her rent.

I share my daughter's room and she uses it when she visits me in Los Angeles during her school breaks. I am a hard worker and struggled when I came to Los Angeles and I do not want visitors to experience the tough times like I did. I try to make it enjoyable and give my guests drinks and pick them up at the airport. Most of my guests are students who go to UCLA. I believe in hard work and persistence. Home sharing on Airbnb is not an easy way to make money but it is the only way for me to make money. I put in hard work and go the extra mile for my guests to feel welcome and happy.

It gives me hope and opportunity to survive and start my life in Los Angeles and stay close to my daughter. Please consider a law that will continue to help me rent our room easily.

Thank you very much,

Monica Zhang