

May 23, 2015

To: The United States of America Policymakers

From: Stephen Tenace of Los Angeles, California in the district of Echo Park.

Re: Airbnb

In addition to the above my ICM case manager helped me to apply for the Cal Fresh program (EBT/food stamps). I had my one year evaluation a couple of weeks ago and because of Airbnb providing a way for me to have extra income I will no longer be needing Cal Fresh.

Airbnb - because of my ability to have had the help I needed and got from the City of Los Angeles through the LGBT Center I am able to humbly state to the lawmakers that if it was not for the service Airbnb provides I would be in dire need of more social services due to my physical and emotional status that was granted to me by disability (SSI/SSDI).

In the first month of utilizing Airbnb - this month of May 2015 - to become a host I grossed \$1,136.00 adding to my disability income of \$1,069.00. What this means is that I

am no longer at the mercy of government subsidies and/or social programs!
Emotionally and physically? The extra income was a huge boost to my self-esteem and self-confidence to have my life back at the age of 60.

As far as I am concerned Airbnb provides a much needed service to ordinary people such as myself who have worked their entire lives only to beholden to corporate influences that steal the livelihood of American citizens to prosper on a fair playing field.

Let's face facts. Hotels are nice however, during my career and staying in Hotels throughout the country I have been surrounded by Hotel employees angry that their salaries only equal to minimum wage. That reflects back to the customers and the ugly underlining energies carry over to something as simple as driving and getting angry at the whole world around us. Or, better still, having the feeling of superiority over the less fortunate.

Please make the correct decision that will allow our Capitalist Society thrive for everyone.

Thank you,
Stephen Tenace