

My name is Doran Brown and I work for the ISS as a floor tech at BWI Airport. I am here to talk about how a higher wage would help my way of living. I have an ailing mother who has a sickly husband and a better wage would help me by making sure I have enough money to help support them. I also have 4 grandchildren who I want to be able to support. Right now I have to make tough decisions between having to pay my bills and making sure I can support the people I love which isn't easy.

I work with customers everyday. Even though as a floor tech and cleaner my job description is not necessarily to help passengers, it's just a part of being an airport worker. Customers always ask for help and it's my job to help them even though this puts me at risk of exposure to COVID. This means me coming into contact with so many people in the airport is me taking a chance in bringing anything including COVID home. And with my mother being sickly it's a big risk. No one wants to lose a loved one.

But regardless of that I come to work everyday and do what I need to do. My work at the airport requires that I have a badge because I work behind security. In order to get my badge I had to: Go through an FBI background check; pass a test on how to respond to the active shooter situation, pass a test on what type of entry points are acceptable for us and pass a test on how to respond to any suspicious activity.

Being able to make higher wages would help me feel even safer at work. It would help me support my family. It would make it so that the risk I take everyday of exposing myself to COVID is being compensated. Improving our wages would also show the value of our hard work keeping the airport safe and secure.