

Chris O'Brien

From: Karen Seiler <kseiler@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 29, 2024 11:11 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: SUPPORT H7225, Article 3, Section 17

I'm writing to express my support for proposed bill: **H7225, Article 3, Section 17**

My husband and I have been working diligently to address lead hazard conformance in an historic rental property in Providence, but it takes time and money, especially since much of the exterior work has to be approved by the Historical Commission. We have invested tens of thousands of dollars in new "historic" windows. Now, the whole house needs to be repainted (again), and the lowest quote came in at \$18,000 to hire a lead certified painting contractor.

Contractors and painters who can do the needed work are in short supply, and we can't even get on their schedules once we've got the budget available. As it stands right now, we won't have completed the work to be fully compliant with the new law if it goes into effect as originally planned this fall. We're trying, but there's only so much we have control over. The alternative is to leave our apartments empty when they turn over until we are able to get the rest of the work done, but assuming we can even afford to do that and still pay for the work, if enough landlords are in the same boat, we're going to have an even worse housing crisis in the area than we do now.

Thank you for considering any measures that will help!

Sincerely,
Karen Seiler
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