

Members of the House Finance Committee:

Since 2020 rents in Providence have increased by 40% whereas income has only risen by 15%. Our government needs to create a comprehensive system to address the lack of housing. In the meantime, I support increasing the budget item in H-7127 from \$120 million to \$150 million to encourage the production of rental and ownership housing.

I have been transporting the un-housed from Mathewson Street Church to a warming center for the past 3 weeks of below freezing temperatures. I hear their stories and know that some are capable of maintaining a home and have previously owned a home. No one should be on the street when daytime temperatures are below freezing, which occurs on Sundays and early evenings when libraries and other public places are closed.

Please support H-7127. Thank you, Eugenia Marks, 11 Methyl St., Providence, RI 02906