

March 27, 2024

Dear Chairman Craven and House Judiciary Committee Members:

I am in support of H 7049, as I feel this will help The Rhode Island housing crisis and allow for families to have a place to call home.

The bill outlines the following:

1. Affordable housing: Ensuring housing is affordable and accessible, especially for low-income families and individuals.
2. Stable and predictable housing: Providing tenants with more stability and predictability around rental costs and housing situations.
3. Equal opportunity to housing: Ensuring all Rhode Island residents, including those with developmental disabilities and intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD), have the same opportunities to access quality, affordable housing.

These are important social and economic priorities when it comes to housing policy. The proposed legislation seems aimed at addressing these goals by:

- Limiting rent increases to 4% annually to promote affordability and stability.
- Requiring landlords to provide advance notice of rent increases.
- Preventing landlords from resetting rents by more than 4% when there is a change in tenancy.

This type of policy framework can help make housing more accessible and predictable for lower-income individuals and families, including those with developmental disabilities or IDD. Ensuring equitable access to affordable, stable housing is crucial for supporting vulnerable communities in Rhode Island. The provisions in this bill appear designed to work towards these important housing equity goals.

Please pass H 7049.

Sincerely,

Kerri Cassino

10 Heritage Cir Johnston