

Roberta DiMezza

From: Timothy F <twf.twf@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 7:13 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: rep-stewart@rilegislature.gov

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Dear Chairperson Craven and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

In my capacity as a social worker over the last 7 years I have worked directly with a large number of people experiencing homelessness and people at imminent risk of homelessness. I have worked with people before, during, and after the eviction process. I have worked with people before, during, and after their experience of homelessness. Many dozens of these people I knew and worked with closely are no longer alive. Many dozens experienced early and preventable death. That is horrible. Early death. That isn't right. That should not happen, but it does with a regularity that would make you physically, emotionally, and spiritually sick. Many dozens I know would still be alive if they had a place to live that was warm, safe, and affordable, and had basic protections, we did not help in time, they deserved better.

There will be more, early, preventable death unless we as Rhode Islanders the legislature who represents us makes a commitment that we no longer tolerate early death in our communities.

These slate of bills represent some chances to make an impact, and lower the rates of early death. If early death makes you sick, I implore you to make a real difference this session.

Be a part of the solution by passing H 7304 this would require 90 days notice for most renters and 120 days for those 62 and older. By increasing the number of days people have prior to a rent increase, this bill seeks to give all Rhode Island renters an opportunity to adjust budgets, seek additional employment, or get a security deposit together. It seeks to reduce stress for families by ensuring people have more time to figure out what's next and how to remain housed.

Sincerely,

Timothy Fischer, LCSW
Providence, RI