



Providence City Council

March 18, 2025

The Honorable Robert E. Craven Sr.
House Judiciary Committee
Rhode Island House of Representatives
82 Smith Street Providence, RI 02903

RE: SUPPORT for H5503

Dear Chair Craven and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

We, the undersigned members of the Providence City Council, write in strong support of H5503, the Just Cause Eviction bill. Rhode Island is in the midst of a severe housing crisis, with rising rents, limited affordable housing, and an increasing number of residents facing eviction through no fault of their own. In our communities, we have seen firsthand how arbitrary evictions destabilize families, push working people out of their homes, and deepen the already dire homelessness crisis. This legislation is a necessary step to ensure that tenants can remain in their homes unless there is a legitimate cause for eviction, providing them with the stability they need to work, raise families, and contribute to our communities.

The impact of this crisis is especially pronounced in Providence, where displacement and housing insecurity have reached unprecedented levels. As city leaders, we know that once a household is evicted, the consequences can be devastating. It forces people toward emergency shelters, making it harder for children to stay in school, and straining municipal resources. Preventing unnecessary evictions is the most effective and least costly way to mitigate homelessness. H5503 is a well-crafted and common-sense solution that aligns with our ongoing efforts to expand tenant protections and keep Rhode Islanders in their homes.

We urge this committee to advance H5503 to ensure that tenants are not forced out of their homes without due cause. Rhode Island must take bold action to address the housing crisis, and this legislation is an essential part of that response. Thank you for your leadership on this issue and for your consideration of this critical bill.

Thank you for your consideration,

Miguel Sanchez

Councilor, Ward 6

Althea Graves

Councilwoman, Ward 11

Justin Roias

Councilor, Ward 4

Providence City Council

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