



STATE of RHODE ISLAND
Executive Department
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Legislative Impact Statement

To: Robert E. Craven, Chair House Judiciary Committee
From: Elisabeth Hubbard, Executive Secretary
Re: House 5721 AN ACT RELATING TO GOVERNMENT – LEAD HAZARD MITIGATION

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities' Legislation Committee has developed a Legislative Impact Statement on the bill listed below. The Commission would be pleased to present testimony to the committee. Please contact me (462-01110) if testimony is desired or for additional information.

This bill would relieve landlords of the responsibility for obtaining a lead safety certificate if the reason that they have not obtained a certificate is "due to the fact that the state lacks the adequate resources to conduct inspections.

The Commission finds this bill harmful.

The Commission is concerned as this could lead to lead exposure of children, which could cause them to have developmental disabilities. It does not give any criteria for what steps the landlord needs to have taken before it is determined that they have not received the certificate due to the state's inaction., which could lead to landlords avoiding the necessary mitigation.

If there is a significant delay for landlords to obtain their lead safety certificates, the answer should be for the state to hire more inspectors, not to make the requirements less stringent.