

Ariana Costa

From: bounce@bounce.votervoice.net on behalf of Della Reams <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 9:56 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: SUPPORT H7560 Lead Law Changes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Committee Clerk DiMezza,

I am writing to you to express my support for H7560 which contains much-needed and overdue changes to the lead law.

As a landlord, I fully support lead-safe housing for at-risk occupants. However, data indicates that approximately 15% or fewer rental households include children under six—the group most vulnerable to lead exposure, as defined by multiple state lead laws. Efforts should be targeted toward this specific segment rather than implementing a broad, all-encompassing approach that is unrealistic and unattainable. Overloading an already strained system with additional requirements will not effectively protect children.

I also support clarifying that one state department - the Department of Health - would be responsible for implementing the lead hazard law in RI. This would streamline the process so that all parties can avoid overlap and discord in procedure and enforcement proceedings.

Lastly, I think it is only fair to allow rent that a tenant has paid into escrow with the court due to the presence of lead paint hazards, to be released by the court to the landlord for the sole purpose of making repairs to fix the lead paint hazards. I'm surprised this isn't in the law already, and it's just an obvious change we should make if we are serious about protecting children and other at-risk occupants from lead paint.

Please support these commonsense changes to the lead law, and thank you.

Sincerely,

Della Reams
113 Messer St Apt 1
Providence, RI 02909
dellareams@gmail.com