

Testimony in support of H8215: RI Fair Housing practices Act

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Date of Hearing: March 18, 2026

To: Chair McEntee and the honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee

I support this bill if changes are made to lines 33 and 34 on page 5. First, a landlord should not be put in the position of determining whether a disability is readily apparent or not. This is a subjective assessment which would normally not be made by a lay person and in itself could be discriminatory. Second, the right to obtain a professional opinion should be the landlord's inherent right. If the potential tenant is seeking a waiver for something other tenants would not be granted, the landlord should have a right to request documentation to support such a waiver. It is, after all, their property.