

## Ariana Costa

---

**From:** bounce@bounce.voterveice.net on behalf of Ghassan Daou <user@voterveice.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 19, 2026 6:25 AM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** SUPPORT H7199 with Amendments

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Committee Clerk DiMezza,

I appreciate the intent behind H7199 and fully support efforts to protect survivors of domestic violence and connect them with meaningful support and resources. However, I must respectfully oppose the bill in its current form due to significant concerns regarding its conflict with existing contract law and landlord-tenant law.

Many provisions of this bill appear to undermine established legal principles surrounding lease agreements, joint tenancy obligations, and due process. The self-certification provisions are particularly concerning, as they could shift undue liability onto housing providers in situations where the requirements of the bill do not align with practical, real-world circumstances. In some cases, property owners may be placed in legally uncertain positions where compliance with one section of the law could potentially conflict with other legal obligations.

While the goal of protecting survivors is important, the solution should not create additional legal ambiguity or unintended liability for property owners. If the intention of this legislation is to ensure survivors are not unfairly penalized due to circumstances involving domestic violence, a more balanced approach would be to provide courts with clear directive and discretion to take these circumstances into consideration before imposing penalties or enforcing lease-related consequences.

We should absolutely work to support survivors of domestic violence by ensuring access to resources, housing assistance, and appropriate judicial consideration, while also maintaining consistency with existing legal frameworks and due process protections.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ghassan Daou  
285 Slater Ave  
Providence, RI 02906  
gdaou69@gmail.com