

To: House Municipal Government and Housing Committee

Dear Committee Members:

As a resident of Narragansett I strongly urge you not to support House Bill 7382 (which changes the definition of household).

Over the past twenty years I have seen a tremendous number of small single family purchased by out of state investors/landlords and turned into large rental houses in Narragansett. These three bedroom single family homes have been turned into five, six and seven bedroom homes by gutting the garages and turning them into additional bedrooms for extra rental bedrooms. In other cases they have been torn down and large rental homes were built in their place.

This had become a major opportunity for real estate investors who took advantage of the desire for large rental party homes for the summer - and then in the off season renting all of those bedrooms to URI college students. These homes became party houses all year round – driving families out of the neighborhoods.

Recently the town was able to make changes to keep this situation from spiraling further out of control with the 3 unrelated ordinance and the 3 student ordinance. This would slow down the decimation of the single family homes in the town, and positively impact the quality of life for the residents. Families would begin to be able to live in the neighborhoods again that had become transient party villages.

This proposed change would put us right back on the path of elimination of single family homes in Narragansett.

Again – I urge you not to support this change. I know that we and our neighbors are very concerned about the future if it was to pass.

Sincerely,

Jeff Mitchell

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