



March 7th, 2024

The Honorable Representative Stephen Casey
Chair of the House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing
Rhode Island General Assembly
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Support for H7533

Dear Chairman Casey and Members of the House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing,

Reclaim Rhode Island supports H7533, which would require all buildings built before 1978 to comply with state law and require the presence of a lead inspector and supervisor for renovation projects.

Reclaim is a leading tenant organization in Rhode Island, and we work with many tenants who live in buildings which were built before lead paint was banned. Too often, these properties are sold to landlords who do minimal renovations without concern for lead exposure. We have worked with many tenants whose children have been exposed to lead, due to landlord negligence.

H7533 will ensure that lead safety standards can be enforced by the Department of Labor and Training, and protect workers from exposure to lead. It should also ensure that all renovation projects will be safe for children upon completion, and prevent lead poisoning from occurring.

There are already hundreds of companies and workers who are certified and qualified as lead contractors, lead renovation firms, and lead inspectors in Rhode Island - passing H7533 will bring us closer to ensuring that all buildings in Rhode Island are free from the hazard of lead.

Sincerely,

Reclaim RI