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Subject: Supporting H-7987 for Tenant Safety and Transparency

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

On behalf of SEIU 1199NE, representing 5,000 healthcare and service workers across Rhode Island, I write to express our strong support for H-7987. This important bill would require housing code enforcement officers to provide tenants with copies of any housing code violations affecting their building, as well as information on hearing dates. This step is crucial for enhancing tenant safety and ensuring transparency in rental housing.

Several of our members reside in substandard rental units and face challenges due to the current informal notification process, which relies on property owners to relay information about housing code violations. This bill addresses a critical gap by ensuring that tenants have direct access to vital safety information about their homes. Housing code violations can range from minor infractions to serious hazards that impact the health and safety of our members and their families.

By supporting H-7987, you will help ensure that all tenants, including our members, are informed and empowered to advocate for safer living conditions. This bill represents a straightforward and essential step towards improving tenant rights and safety in Rhode Island.

We urge the Committee to support this bill and help protect the well-being of tenants across the state.

Sincerely,

Alex Moore