

To whom it may concern,

My name is Alex Esquivel, I was born and raised in Providence and as of two years ago, I am a resident once again who returned home after serving in the United States Air Force. After being away for nearly eight years, it is clear that Providence is no longer prioritizing working-class families or long-time residents. Instead, neighborhoods are being pushed to the edge while affordability disappears.

This proposed property tax increase will hurt homeowners, but it will hit renters even harder. Landlords will be forced to pass the increase down and many renters who are already struggling will not be able to afford it. These are real people. These are families. And this policy puts them at risk. What makes this even more frustrating is knowing that some of the wealthiest property owners in the city will barely be affected. Some will even receive a tax break. That is not fair. That is not just. And it sends a message that those with less are expected to carry more.

I am tired of watching my friends and family leave Providence because they can no longer afford to live here. I came back because I loved this city. But this kind of policy makes it harder and harder to keep loving it. I am urging you to vote no on this proposal. Protect the people who actually live here. I am against bill number 6162 which would increase the tax cap.

Sincerely,

Alex Esquivel

Hartford Neighborhood

Providence, Rhode Island