

Dear members of the committee,

My name is Anabella Arnold and I've been a proud resident and homeowner in Providence since the 1990s. I'm writing to tell the General Assembly to be against the proposed property tax increase. I am against the General Assembly to pass HR6162. I live in a duplex, and like many homeowners in this city, I rely on the rent from the other unit to help me stay afloat. The people who live there work hard, but they don't make enough to absorb a rent increase — and frankly, neither do I.

This tax hike puts me in an impossible position: either raise their rent and put more pressure on a struggling family, or take on the burden myself when I'm already doing my best to get by. I've seen Providence change a lot over the years. But it's getting harder to recognize the city I raised my children in. I worry that my grandchildren will never have the opportunity to own a home here — that the dream of building a life in this community will keep slipping further away for working families.

Please don't let this city become a place only the wealthy can afford to call home. I urge you to reconsider this tax proposal and think about the impact it will have on residents like me — and the generations coming after us.

Thank you for your time.

Anabella Arnold

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