

Dear House Municipal Government and Housing Committee Members,

I am a resident of Providence and a renter who has been living in the same apartment for the past 6 years. I have watched my rent increase from \$1,240/mo in 2019 to \$1,800/mo in 2025. My wife and I are both musicians and teachers who do not make a lot of money, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to afford our rent. Our living conditions have not improved since we first moved here in 2019; if anything, they have worsened as the rats run rampant through our garbage-littered and pot-hole ridden streets. We are almost 30 and want to purchase a home, but that is also completely unattainable due to astronomical increases in cost of living expenses in Rhode Island. **I vehemently oppose House Bill #6162.** If passed, the City of Providence would be able to approve a Budget that raises property taxes on Non-Owner Occupied Multi-family Homes by an average of \$1,200 which will lead to higher rents. If my wife and I are already struggling to afford our rent, we will suffer tenfold if House Bill #6162 passes. In addition, if H6162 were to pass, the City of Providence would be able to raise property taxes on Homeowners of Single-Family Homes, which makes purchasing a home an impossibility for us. House Municipal Government and Housing Committee Members, I truly love living in Providence and I love my job as a musician and teacher. I don't think I should be forced to suffer and/or change my vocation in order to live comfortably in my home state, don't you agree?

Sincerely,
Jess Huetteman
Providence, RI