

## Dawn Huntley

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**From:** Sandra Darling <sandradarling47@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2026 9:19 AM  
**To:** House Municipal Government and Housing Committee; June Speakman; Sen. Lauria, Pamela J.  
**Subject:** House Bill #7658

Chairman Casey and members of the House Municipal Government and Housing Committee:

I write in **support** of HB #7658 which amends Rhode Island's Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Code to strengthen notification requirements when a building has housing code violations. If a housing code enforcement officer finds that a dwelling, unit, or structure violates the housing code, the officer must give a copy of the violation notice to all tenants affected by the violation. Previously, notices were only required to be served to the owner or operator, which meant tenants might never learn about dangerous or unhealthy conditions officially identified by inspectors. The bill corrects that. H7658 is good for tenants because it ensures transparency, provides equal access to critical safety information, strengthens tenant participation in enforcement, and holds landlords (especially absentee ones) accountable for fixing housing code violations. I urge your support for HB #7658.

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