

OPPOSE H8363

Dear Representative,

My name is Andrew Giannetto and I reside at 47 Basin Rd, Narragansett, RI 02882. I oppose this bill due to the impacts it will have on our community. My rental property allowed me to raise my children in this beautiful place. If not for this it would have been impossible for us to reside here due to the seasonal residents that can afford to have a 2nd home while at the same time keeping their property in RI vacant in the winter months. This bill hurts the hard working families of RI that are working multiple jobs and trying to find ways to reside here full time.

These bills would empower municipalities to:

1. Trample the rights of rental property owners by dictating who they can and cannot rent to through a licensing process prone to bias, prejudice, and discrimination — one that also sets a dangerous precedent for the future erosion of property rights statewide.
2. Target a specific group of individuals and restrict where they may live.
3. Re-engineer the demographic composition of their communities.
4. Use licensing, burdensome annual inspections, and application fees to discourage student rentals — potentially eliminating them altogether.
5. Enact ordinances that circumvent state law, which prohibits municipalities from barring rentals to fewer than one unrelated person per bedroom, up to a maximum of five.
6. Deny housing to tens of thousands of college students across the state who depend on off-campus living, particularly given that most colleges lack sufficient on-campus housing.
7. Harm not only college students — for whom housing is consistently their top concern — but also their families, many of whom are Rhode Island residents.

Regards,

Andrew Giannetto