

Subject: Opposition to Proposed Student Housing Landlord Licensing Requirement – H8363

Dear Members of the House Municipal Government and Housing Committee:

My name is Grace Francomano, and I am a college student currently living in off-campus housing in the current year and in 2027 in Rhode Island. I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed amendment on bill H8363 that all student housing landlords need to be licensed.

In reading the proposed amendment, I don't see anything that explains exactly what the requirements and terms are, but I can only imagine that it will result in landlords having to pay more in fees, licenses, and potentially fines, and I feel that it is a given that those costs will be passed on to us, the tenants. As I pay for my rent currently, this is definitely something that I cannot afford, and it doesn't seem like something that is going to protect affordable housing which I keep hearing in the news is a very important topic here in RI.

As a nursing student in college in Rhode Island, passing this bill and allowing these higher living costs will also make me less likely to live here post-graduation. With the obvious nursing shortage here, this gives us nursing students a reason for not wanting to stay in Rhode Island as a new-grad nurse.

This proposed amendment seems to intend hurt affordable housing, so this is very concerning to me, not just as a student, but as someone who may choose to stay in RI after I graduate. If I do, I will eventually purchase a house, and if there are less student landlords, that means that taxes will increase for everyone else. If that is the case, I will likely not plan to stay in RI.

I am very concerned that this proposal will have significant unintended consequences to students and other taxpayers, so I respectfully ask that you oppose this proposal. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Grace Francomano  
Providence College