

OPPOSE H8363

To the Members of the House Municipal Government and Housing  
Committee and Representative Casey,

As a former URI graduate, and now owner of a property in Narragansett, I am writing to express my opposition to bill H8363.

This bill would give municipalities too much control over rental housing and limit the rights of property owners. By creating a licensing process, it allows towns to influence who landlords can rent to, which could lead to unfair treatment and discrimination.

It also appears to target college students by making it harder for them to find off campus housing. Many colleges do not have enough on campus housing, so students depend on local rentals. Limiting these options would make it harder for students and their families to find affordable places to live.

The added requirements such as annual inspections, applications, and fees would create extra burdens for property owners and may discourage them from renting to students at all.

This bill could also conflict with existing state law regarding occupancy limits, creating confusion and inconsistency across communities.

Overall, H8363 would reduce housing availability, unfairly impact students, and set a concerning precedent for property rights. I urge you to vote against this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Joanne Berthiaume

203 Woodhill Rd.

Narragansett