

## Roberta DiMezza

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**From:** Karen Maw <karen@diamondstarp.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 15, 2025 11:48 AM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** OPPOSE 5920

Dear Committee Clerk DiMezza,

If a person has a medical condition that requires an emotional support animal, it should be a service animal that is properly trained. We have so many tenants with emotional support animals that are totally untrained which causes issue with other residents being afraid of them.

I OPPOSE H 5920. Expanding protections for untrained “assistance animals” to match those of professionally trained service animals could lead to abuse, undermining landlord rights and tenant safety. Adding “housing status” as a protected class may create legal burdens, prevent landlords from verifying rental history or identity, and pose safety risks. Instead of broad policies that may backfire, we urge lawmakers to focus on education, support services, and collaborative solutions that balance housing access, property rights, and anti-discrimination efforts. Alternatively, I SUPPORT H5504 as a balanced solution for ESA protections.

Sincerely,

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