

I strongly support bill H7382. This bill reduces the current limits on renting and provides badly needed housing for URI students as has been done for decades.

For the past 3 years, my daughter experiences a frantic race each October to identify potential housing for her and some of her friends. The goal is always to live by the beach, the draw for so many at URI.

The past year especially, as they are older and have internships they drive to, and require more grown up environments than a dorm would provide- it's been very difficult to find, fund and even exclude friends from housing due to the limits on number of unrelated renters. We've heard stories where open beds go unused. Or students commute from great distances to find affordable housing. I can only imagine the frustration of your home owners- looking to rent properties to supplement rental incomes during the school year months. Would this increase tax income to the local government too?

I recall similar laws when I went to school- hold overs from an era of concern with "brothels." It felt outdated way back then. It seems reasonable that a home with appropriately proportioned beds per fire code, be allowed to have that many student renters. It would be safe, more affordable and provide your home owners greater income to take care of their properties.

Please consider supporting a change to the rental limits- to afford more opportunities in your region.

Thank you for your time.

Amy Starner