

As a parent/cosigner of two URI students (Graduate Student and Undergraduate student), I am writing this email to express my support of House Bill H7382. The current Narragansett and South Kingstown three student off-campus housing ordinance is causing extreme uncertainty, stress and endless hours of wasted time and energy for my children and their friends. They are spending endless hours weekly researching and attempting to find and secure appropriate housing for next academic year. These young adults should be focusing on their academics, not having to navigate through such challenging housing shortages due to rules that seem to change each year.

Assuming the local homeowners' main concern is noise levels and out of control social activities and parties, this appears to be very discriminatory of all college students in general. In addition, it does not make any logical sense how renting to only three unrelated students vs. four or five students will make any substantial difference in the community as to house gatherings, social activities or disturbances within the neighborhoods. Three students are just as capable as four or five students to host such activities.

URI is in the midst of a major on-campus housing shortage and this current ordinance is only making matters worse. If the current three student ordinance remains in effect, I foresee this will continue to directly impact rental homeowners, local community businesses, as well as URI. Students will have no choice but to attend college elsewhere if they cannot secure or afford rental housing in RI.

This Bill will reduce the current limits on renting in cities and towns across the state and will have a positive effect on the housing crisis in Rhode Island. It will also provide the badly needed housing for URI students.

Please take these above concerns into consideration and support House Bill H7382.

Thank you in advance-
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