

To Whom it may Concern,

I write to you today in strong support of bill H7382. This bill reduces the current limits on renting and provides badly needed housing for URI students.

Had we known in advance about the ongoing battle between the town of Narragansett and URI/Students over housing, we may not have chosen for our daughter to go to URI. It's absolutely absurd how difficult/expensive the town of Narragansett continues to try and make it for URI students to live in the area, when a) there are no other options due to limited on-campus housing and b) STUDENTS ARE A HUGE PART OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY!! Do they not realize how much money students/their families bring to the area? My daughter is currently living in the Bonnet Shores area of Narragansett and has been nothing but a wonderful tenant for her landlord, and a respectful neighbor to area residents. The fact that the town continues to make it so difficult and so expensive for students/families is outrageous, in light of the amount of money that we bring to the area.

It's time for the state to step in, and while you are at it....work on helping out the people of RI with the outrageous increase to electricity supplier charges. As a CT resident sending my daughter to school at URI, I almost fell off my chair when she shared the cost of her electric bill in December (and every month since). It's highway robbery, and I don't know how many permanent residents of RI are keeping the lights/heat on since the rate hike. We are grateful to only have to deal with these struggles for one more year.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin K. Ballou

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