

Submitter: Eva Kronen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3237

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill. I work for a federally funded and state funded preschool program for families that are low income. My position as the Housing Specialist was developed this year due to the increasing number of families that find themselves houseless or at risk of houselessness. One of the factors that exacerbates finding housing in an already too tight market with criminally high rents is the application fees which span from \$20 to \$45 or more and are often not refundable. For a family living on minimum wages, these fees rack up quickly. This takes money away from basic needs: food, transportation costs, laundry, hotel fees, etc. It is time to cap these fees to a reasonable amount for low income rental seekers. I would also like to ensure that if an applicant is not selected because someone above them on the list is, they should receive a full refund promptly.

Thank you for considering my testimony and this very important issue to families and individuals living with housing insecurity.