

Submitter: Jake Miller

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2967

Esteemed House Committee,

Hello, my name is Jake. Back in 2020, I was looking for a place to rent. It was incredibly difficult to do because as someone who is disabled, I do not have disposable income. I ended up wasting well over \$500 on application fees and was rejected time and time again with no way to recoup the money. I was just out \$500+ which was really bad (especially then, I was having very bad health issues that made it even more difficult to care for myself since my money was going to fees) and if I were to have to do the process over again, I don't think I'd be able to afford it at all. Landlords already squeeze the common people for every last penny they can get and they can more than afford to drop application fees, especially with how rent has been artificially inflated beyond any reasonable amount via RealPage in MANY instances. These places do not need to be preying on people who are trying to find a place to live. It's despicable and I am in full support of destroying the harmful culture of fees on these applications. Landlords and property management companies should not be able to have a chokehold on who applies because whether or not they agree, this kind of fee is just another way to gatekeep equal access to housing.