

Submitter: Shawna Camp
On Behalf Of: Collective Communities
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2967

The application and screening process helps landlords to ensure a safe and peaceful community to all residents. If a prospect has the burden to pay for their application, they will take it seriously and ask the landlord questions about park rules and requirements because they are hoping to be approved to live in the community. Once they have determined for themselves that they have a good chance of being approved, that is usually when they will apply. On the other hand, if they feel they may not be approved then they will likely not apply as they would not want to 'waste' their money. If they did not have to pay that application fee then many would just apply simply in hopes of getting park approval, allowing them to 'waste' the landlord's money that could be spent on community upkeep instead. It is very likely that a considerably higher amount of prospects would apply, and the cost could get very high for a landlord. This would have a snowball effect into higher amounts of rent needing to be charged, or for a landlord to want to forego the screening process altogether- snowballing into no longer being able to ensure that safe and peaceful community. It would be so much simpler - and safer - to leave things the way they are now. Paying a screening fee is just simply a part of the prospect making a larger financial decision, one that should not be taken lightly.

Thank you for considering our words and thoughts on the matter, it is greatly appreciated!