

Submitter:

Mandee Campos

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3974

To the House Rules Committee,

I have worked in housing for about five years now. The work was something I originally pursued to gain some insights as to my mother's experience as a single mother of two experiencing domestic violence, homelessness, and housing instability as a teen parent. Through her, I was the first in my family to pursue a higher education with a master's degree. Working in housing has been a eye opening experience in realizing the overwhelming numbers of barriers there are that keep households unstably housed.

I remember my elementary aged self emptying my piggy bank for change to help pitch in for gas or groceries. When a household's budget is down to the last dollar and penny— application fees without a cap create a unnecessary burden to communities trying to obtain housing to have a sense of security to begin building up their lives. Without housing stability, it is nearly impossible for marginalized communities to meet any other goals, because housing is a essential need for survival and a human right.

The programs I have worked with that provide subsidies for households often do not cover the application fees because of complications with intake and funding compliance procedures. This often leads to households missing out on many opportunities for not having funds available immediately to pay on their own because of the high application costs. \$20 is not only more reasonable, but would alleviate a tremendous burden to the community members you represent. Please do what is right by them. Thank you.

-Mandee