

Submitter: Chris Cirillo

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB799

The pandemic era restrictions created an extreme hardship on landlords and housing providers, even with the amount of assistance available.

Ultimately the cost of those people was borne by the housing provider. The proposed bill again transfers a societal problem to housing providers. If the state wants to help tenants, they need to equally help housing providers. This bill is one sided and will ultimately reduce the supply of rental housing.

I will also tell you that rarely is non payment the only issue with tenants that ultimately default. There are often property damage, drug addiction, mental health issues and many other factors that contribute to non payment.

In addition, it should be noted that eviction can be a weeks to months long process. There are ample safeguards and opportunities for assistance agencies to intervene along the way. I will continue to support assistance programs and agencies that help house people. Many of the programs are well run and our focus should be on leveraging those resources more quickly not transferring costs to housing providers.