

February 19, 2013

Housing Committee - Public Hearing on Proposed S.B. No. 337

AN ACT ESTABLISHING GOALS FOR MIXED POPULATION PUBLIC HOUSING.

Written Testimony of Mary Ellen Kuraska

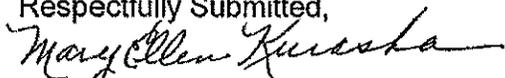
Ladies and Gentlemen of the Housing Committee --

I fully support S.B. 337 and similar proposed legislation S.B. 336.

In 2002 I retired after being a public housing practitioner for over 25 years. At that time the Enfield Housing Authority's State of Connecticut financed developments had a population that was comprised of about 86% senior citizens with the balance being individuals with disabilities. I later was appointed to the board of Commissioners in 2009 and was surprised to see that the percentage had diminished to fewer than 70% seniors. Today, only about half of the apartments are occupied by seniors. If this trend continues there will be no apartments available to those over age 62.

As a retired older American, I understand the challenges our aging population faces. An affordable place to live is vitally important to the well-being of our elderly citizens. I encourage you to support S.B. 337 and similar proposed legislation S.B. 336 to help preserve affordable housing for our seniors.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mary Ellen Kuraska