February 3, 2015

Housing Committee - Public Hearing on

Proposed H.B. No. 5356, An Act Concerning the Relocation of Displaced Tenants

Written Testimony of Cathy K. Forcier

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Housing Committee –

I'd like to thank Representative Berger for introducing this bill.

I have been a public housing practitioner for over 25 years. My experience includes being the current President of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Housing & Redevelopment Officials more commonly known as CONN-NAHRO. I am currently the Executive Director of the Wethersfield Housing Authority.

I fully support H.B. 5356 to amend section 8-268 of the general statutes to (1) limit the payment of displacement expenses by the landlord of a dwelling unit for temporary housing to a maximum of fourteen days following the tenant displacement, and (2) exempt the landlord of a dwelling unit from payment of displacement expenses if the code violation resulting in tenant displacement is due to no fault of the landlord. A landlord can't control acts of nature nor the behavior of a tenant who may cause damage, resulting in a code violation.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy K. Forcier

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