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**Connecticut Property Owners Alliance, LLC**

300 New Britain Road, Berlin, CT 06037

[www.ctpoa.com](http://www.ctpoa.com)

1-800-369-6153

[ctpoa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ctpoa@sbcglobal.net)

## **Housing Committee Public Hearing, March 1, 2016**

### ***AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING TO ADMINISTER CONNECTICUT HOUSING INVESTMENT FUND PROGRAMS***

#### **Testimony of Bob De Cosmo, President of the CT Property Owners Alliance, LLC. In Support of H.B. 5398**

Honorable members of the Housing Committee, I appreciate this opportunity to supply testimony supporting the efforts of the CT Housing Investment Fund, Inc.

The Connecticut Property Owners Alliance represents approximately 16,000 rental units and supports the premise that housing should be safe and energy efficient. This Bill makes funding available for such purposes in addition to promoting housing that can be suitable for aging in place to protect our senior citizens.

A few years back we passed PA 11-42 which created a revolving low-interest loan fund to help owners of properties ranging from 2 to 20 units with code compliance. To date, this loan program has not been funded and is a key missing ingredient to halt the progression of urban blight by helping owners maintain their properties which often suffer heavy abuse and damage by tenants.

Please help us achieve our housing goals and I urge you to vote in support of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Bob DeCosmo