



*Towards self-sufficiency...*

## NH Local Welfare Administrators Association

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May 01, 2021

The Honorable Edward Gordon, Chair  
Judiciary Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 208  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

RE: Support of **SB 126** to extend tenant's ability to prevent eviction by paying owed rental balanced up to the date of the court hearing.

Dear Honorable Chair Gordon and Committee Members,

The NH Local Welfare Administrators Association (NHLWAA) is a professional non-profit organization that educates and supports our municipal members to foster compliant, humanitarian and fiscally responsible assistance practices when assisting residents with NH RSA 165 statutorily obligated basic needs.

NHLWAA respectfully submits this letter as testimony to support SB 126, as its passage is reasonable to landlords, reasonable to tenants and fiscally responsible to municipal property taxpayers.

The ability for a tenant in New Hampshire to pay off (cure) a housing rental balance up until an eviction court hearing is a practical and fiscally responsible measure to minimize homeless and maximize family stability.

New Hampshire RSA 165:1 indicates "Whenever a person in any town is poor and unable to support himself, he shall be relieved and maintained by the overseers of public welfare of such town." SB 126 will lessen the need for taxpayer funded municipal local welfare assistance to relieve evictions.

As you are aware, initiatives to minimize homelessness are ongoing throughout our state and many come at a financial cost. However, this modest change to the cure payment schedule is a cost savings measure to honor our initiatives while maintaining an owner's/landlord's legal right to evict without payment received by the eviction court hearing.

We hope our shared information is helpful and urge you to support SB 126 for the cost savings and humanitarian reasons provided. We are available to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully yours,

Todd M. Marsh  
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