



Towards self-sufficiency...

NH Local Welfare Administrators Association

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January 21, 2022

The Honorable Harold French, Chair
Commerce Committee
State House, Room 100
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

RE: Support of **SB 217** that modifies the days a tenant is provided notice prior to an eviction in circumstances of apartment renovations and repair.

Dear Honorable Chair French 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 217, as its passage is reasonable to landlords, reasonable to tenants and fiscally responsible to municipal property taxpayers.

The ability for tenants in New Hampshire to receive reasonable additional notice of evictions involving planned substantial renovations, repairs, which cannot be safely done while the tenant resides in the premises and the selling of property, is a practical and fiscally responsible measure to minimize housing insecurity and homelessness throughout our state. The current thirty (30) day notice expectation is outdated for the 2022 housing market, including additional time needed to secure alternative housing options.

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 217 will lessen the need for taxpayer funded municipal local welfare assistance and taxpayer funded state assistance to remedy the consequences of evictions, including homelessness.

As you are aware, initiatives to minimize homelessness are ongoing throughout our state and many come at a financial cost. However, this modification to the eviction law regarding planned renovations, repairs and selling of property is a cost effective measure to honor our state initiatives while maintaining an owner's/landlord's legal right to evict within a reasonable period of time.

We hope our shared information is helpful and urge you to support SB 217 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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