

17 February 2023

Senate Committee on Housing and Development

Re: Senate Bill 67

Dear Chair Senator Jama, Vice-Chair Senator Anderson and members of the Committee;

Senate Bill 67 is another example of what happens when the ramifications of legislative actions coupled with poorly thought out consequences of executive orders by our governor are put in place.

Now we are playing catch-up for the results of those actions. When plans are being made, does no one ever ask, “at what cost?”

This is a well-worn, thread-bare story – that continues to this day. It goes something along the lines of, the state decides what is best for private property owners providing housing. Farther down the road, it dawns on them that perhaps letting the rental property owners and tenants work out their problems without interference from the state might have been a better way to go, e.g., allowing evictions to proceed as usual at the time.

That would not have made it necessary for rental property providers to beg the state for a tax credit now. But now, further measures are required to “allow” rental property providers to recoup some of their losses, which ought not have been done in the first place.

The usual reply from those in power is along the lines of, “at the time we thought it was the best action to take,” followed by, “well, just think how bad it would have been had we done done (fill in the blank).

Round and round it goes. The state just can’t seem to help itself from meddling in every aspect of our lives. Followed by fixing the problem they themselves create.

Sincerely,



Richard Wisner