

Submitter: Sarah Johnson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3974
Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Anderson, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee,

As a young mom in my first apartment—I'm just starting out in life. I'm doing everything I can to build a stable place for my child to grow up, but it's a struggle to make ends meet. I know this might not be our forever home, and the thought of having to move again someday is scary. With how expensive relocation is—especially application fees—I worry about how I'll be able to take that next step when the time comes.

I urge you to pass HB 3974, capping application fees at \$20. These fees place a significant burden on low-income renters, making it harder to secure stable housing, particularly for marginalized communities. As a result, many families remain in unstable living conditions. With this cap, landlords can still check all essential criteria—credit, background, and rental history—without overcharging applicants. Passing this bill would not only reduce barriers to housing but also increase community safety by providing more people access to stable housing.

Thank you.