

Submitter: Shelley Beaulieu
On Behalf Of: Community Alliance of Tenants
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3378

Good afternoon Chair Marsh and members of the Committee,

I'm Shelley Beaulieu of Happy Valley. I represent the Community Alliance of Tenants and work in support of households navigating low-incomes. I felt compelled to write about HB3378 as it is such a common sense bill. It shocks me that landlords could, or would, choose to not provide backup methods for tenants to get into their own homes!

Why might this be a problem?

- My phone went dead.
- I lost my phone.
- I left my phone in my apartment, or at work, or at the store, or at a friend's house.
- My cell service is weak (this is a real issue in my neighborhood!)
- I had to cancel my cell service to pay my rent or food, or medical bills, or to keep the lights on
- The app isn't working or my phone is too old for the newest update.
- During emergencies such as power outages, which are more and more common these days, and I haven't been able to charge my phone, now I can't get into my home, or leave my home as I can't get back in. (Also, how does anyone get into the building during power outages?)

Not to mention, there are a myriad of accessibility issues that requiring the use of an app to get into your home raise for our most vulnerable neighbors.

In summary, I urge you to support HB3378 as a common sense measure to remove an unnecessary hardship on our communities.

Why not let tenants Keep the Key?

Thank you for this opportunity to show our support for HB3378,

Shelley Beaulieu
Board Member of CAT