

Submitter: Kylee Younce
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 renter and a pregnant mom of four—soon to be five—every dollar counts. For some, the difference between \$20 and \$50 might not seem like much, but to my family, it's the difference between diapers or dinner. We were almost denied housing because we didn't have "adequate rental history" after renting from a family member, and there was no real way to challenge that. There are so many reasons applications get denied, and most of the time, you just lose the fee and move on. We got lucky this time, but we haven't always been—and I know too many families who never get that chance.

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.