

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TESTIMONY

LATINO
POLICY INSTITUTE

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Testimony in Support of H7680 – Relating to Property– Immigration Status

On behalf of the Latino Policy Institute, we support the passage of this legislation, which would prohibit a landlord from asking about a tenant’s or applicant’s immigration status.

While Rhode Island has moved in the right direction in the last few years to try to protect tenants that identify with communities from protected groups by implementing the state’s Fair Housing Practices Act, we still have a long way to go. Numerous immigrant families in our state face consistent and harmful housing discrimination. Landlords across the country, and within our own Rhode Island communities, have been emboldened by anti-immigrant rhetoric to mistreat and exclude immigrant tenants.

It is for this reason that we ask you to support this bill to strengthen current law and ensure that our neighbors are not discriminated against based on their immigration status.

Marcela Betancur
Director
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