

Name: Kirsten Collins

Representing: Kirsten Collins

Supporting: HB-5574 HA 1 Emergency Rental and Homeowner Protection Act

Testimony:

I am a supporter of the Emergency Homeowner Protection Act, HB 5574, because this medical crisis has left millions without jobs, struggling to afford health insurance, and with little hope of future security. Even with the aid that had been distributed, people slip through the cracks. My partner, Erica Gressman, has been without work for two months, and has received neither unemployment nor a \$1200 stimulus check, despite filing both her unemployment claim and her taxes in a timely and correct manner. Our landlord is small, owning three houses in our neighborhood, one of which we live in. We do not want to damage his income, but ours has been cut by more than 50%, and we are worried about affording rent in the future. We need a rent freeze to ensure that people struggling with bills during this crisis can stay home, afford food, and know that their government has not abandoned them.