

Dear Reps. McGee and Smith, Sens. Lopes and Anwar, and members of the Housing Committee:

My name is Jacey Long. I am a resident of Cromwell, I am testifying in support of Connecticut H.B. 6531 - An Act Concerning the Right to Counsel in Eviction Proceedings and H.B. 6528 - An Act Concerning the Sealing of Eviction Records.

As a member of the LGBTQ+ community and advocate, I feel obligated to support this bill. A survey conducted in 2018 reported that 73 percent of LGBT Americans said they were strongly concerned about housing discrimination from agents, landlords, and neighbors. Another survey reported that a little over 1 in 10 trans and gender non conforming people have been evicted because of their gender identity.

Bills such as these transfer power away from landlords and toward tenants, which is what we need to create a more just and equitable society.

I strongly support H.B. 6531 and H.B. 6528 and urge you to favorably vote these bills out of the Housing Committee.

Sincerely,

Jacey Long
Cromwell