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Housing Committee  
February 18, 2021  
Zoom 11:00AM

In **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 393  
*An Act Concerning Room Temperatures*

Chairman Lopes, Chairman McGee, and distinguished members of the Housing Committee, I am here to testify in **support** of Senate Bill 393, *An Act Concerning Room Temperatures*.

My name is Cathy Osten and I represent the 19<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes the towns of Columbia, Franklin, Hebron, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Marlborough, Montville, Norwich, and Sprague. As a former member of this committee, I truly miss working with all of you. I'd like to thank the leadership of the committee for hearing this bill today.

In August of 2020, one of my constituents contacted me concerning his then-recent experience moving his daughter into a dorm at Eastern Connecticut State University. At the height of the sweltering summer season, my constituents were flabbergasted to learn that the university prohibited the installation of any air conditioning units in dorm units. Not only were they prohibited from installing their own units, the university was under no obligation to provide air conditioning of any kind in their dormitories. Further research conducted by my staff found that there is no legal requirement under state law concerning the setting of maximum temperatures in housing units.

I believe it is imperative for the health and safety of our state's students and anyone who may rent a housing unit that is owned by someone else that we establish a reasonable temperature maximum, in addition to the minimum temperature already set in current law.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in **support** of Senate Bill 393. I look forward to working with the leadership and members of this committee on this bill's passage.