

Senator Lopes, Representative McGee, Ranking Members Polletta and Cicarella, thank you for allowing me to testify. My name is Jenna and I am a student at Hall High School, and I live in West Hartford, Connecticut. I am writing to you today, representing the be homeful ambassadors. We are a statewide youth advocacy club committed to destigmatizing and ending homelessness in our state. Homelessness not only impacts an individual's physical health but it also damages their mental health severely. We want to build a future where homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring for every family, youth, and individual across the state. Establishing the right to housing provides counsel to those facing eviction and foreclosure, funding homelessness response systems, and ending exclusionary zoning.