



**February 24, 2026**

**Housing Committee**

**Public Hearing: Tuesday, February 24, 2026**

**S.B. 257: An Act Concerning Evictions for Cause**

Dear Housing Committee Co-Chairs Senator Martha Marx and Representative Antonio Felipe, Ranking Members Senator Rob Sampson and Representative Tony Scott, and honorable Members of the Housing Committee:

My name is Maryam Elahi, I am the President & CEO of the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut. I am writing to strongly advocate for the passage of S.B. No. 257 – An Act Concerning Evictions for Cause, which would require cause for the eviction of certain tenants and residents of mobile manufactured home parks. This Just Cause legislation is imperative to safeguarding the well-being of Connecticut residents, particularly children who are disproportionately affected by the devastating consequences of eviction.

The rise in evictions in recent years has had an outsized impact on children, causing significant disruptions in their lives and leaving them vulnerable to a myriad of challenges. Eviction not only separates families and disrupts many aspects of life but also leaves children worrying about where they will sleep, if they will have enough to eat, and if they will be forced to stay somewhere unsafe. The detrimental effects of eviction on children's health, education, and mental well-being are profound and long-lasting.

Children rely on stability and predictability, especially in their home environment, to thrive and develop. The sudden upheaval caused by eviction threatens their sense of safety and security, leading to increased stress, anxiety, and behavioral challenges.

Eviction disproportionately impacts Black and Latine children and their mothers. Additionally, families with low incomes that include young children face constrained housing choices, making them more vulnerable to eviction and housing instability. This perpetuates a cycle of poverty and housing insecurity that has far-reaching consequences for generations to come.

Requiring cause for eviction provides critical stability for renters and helps prevent unnecessary displacement, particularly in communities where housing options are limited. Expanding Just Cause protections is not only a matter of housing justice but also an important step toward ending child

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poverty. By ensuring housing security for renters, regardless of age or demographics, we can create a more equitable and prosperous future for our state.

I urge you to prioritize the passage of S.B. No. 257 – An Act Concerning Evictions for Cause and take meaningful action to strengthen housing stability across Connecticut. Let us take decisive action to protect the well-being of our children and build a more inclusive and compassionate society.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Maryam Elahi  
President & CEO  
Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut

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