

Higher Education Committee

HB 2024

Brief Description: Concerning the use of student housing facilities at the institutions of higher education by homeless students.

Sponsors: Representatives Parker, Kagi, Carlyle, Riccelli, Ormsby, Santos and Zeiger.

<p>Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides that the institutions of higher education can allow low-income homeless students the use of student housing for free or a reduced fee on a temporary basis if the facilities are not being used by paying students.
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Hearing Date: 2/18/15

Staff: Megan Wargacki (786-7194).

Background:

Student Housing.

The institutions of higher education have control of their property and buildings. The institutions may rent rooms, dormitories, and other housing facilities to students for a fee. Student housing is often provided on-campus or near campus. Many institutions rent student housing to enrolled students only. However, some institutions allow visiting students and faculty members, students attending other institutions, and other groups to use the student housing facilities when space is available.

Residential Landlord-Tenant Act.

The Residential Landlord-Tenant Act (RLTA) regulates the rights and duties of landlords and tenants in residential rental housing. Certain living arrangements are not governed by the RLTA, including:

- residence at a correctional facility, licensed nursing home, monastery or convent, or hospital;
- residence in a hotel, motel, or other transient lodging; and

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- a rental agreement for the use of a single-family residence in connection with a lease of land for agricultural purposes.

Summary of Bill:

The institutions of higher education may allow low-income homeless students the use of student housing for free or a reduced fee on a temporary basis if the facilities are not being used by paying students. This temporary occupation of student housing facilities by low-income homeless students is subject to the terms and conditions developed by the institution, but is not governed by the RLTA.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.