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I would like to testify in support of including funding for affordable housing in the state budget. As I'm sure you are well aware, homelessness is on the rise. Contrary to popular belief, homelessness is not primarily driven by things like drug use, poverty, or low-income mobility. It is actually better correlated to the cost and availability of rental housing. (Check out [homelessnesshousingproblem.com](http://homelessnesshousingproblem.com) for more information.) It is crucial that we provide assistance to people in finding, securing, and affording their rent, as we also work to make more rental spaces available and to make them affordable, and to prevent naturally-occurring affordable housing from getting snatched up by investors who raise the rent. Thank you for doing all you can to appropriate funds to keep people in their homes and off the street.