



Testimony in Support of Section 21 of S.B. 4, An Act Concerning Connecticut's Present and Future Housing Needs

Karen Siegel, MPH, Director of Policy
Housing Committee
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Dear Senator Moore, Representative Luxenberg, Senator Sampson, Representative Scott, and esteemed members of the Housing Committee,

Thank you for accepting this testimony in **support of Section 21 of S.B. 4** on behalf of Health Equity Solutions (HES), a nonprofit organization with a statewide focus on advancing health equity through anti-racist policies and practices. Our vision is for every Connecticut resident to attain optimal health regardless of race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status.

HES has testified in prior years on the disproportionate impact of lead poisoning on Black and Latino/a residents of Connecticut. [Inequities in access](#) to a healthy living environment cause inequities in health for children and adults. For these reasons, we support this proposal to address health hazards in rental properties. Energy efficiency upgrades often reduce utility usage and related bills. These improvements may increase residents' ability to use their utilities to stay healthy (adequate temperature control, for example) and improve economic stability. We appreciate the focus on environmental justice communities.

HES respectfully defers to our colleagues with expertise in housing policy on the remaining sections of this proposed legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of **Section 21 of S.B. 4**. We can be reached with any questions at aclarke@hesct.org or 860.937.6437.