

Chairwoman John, Vice Chair Dean, Ranking Member Brennan, and members of the committee, my name is Dan Acton, and I am the Director of Government Affairs for the Ohio Real Estate Investors Association (OREIA). OREIA represents 13 local associations with over 3,000 members across Ohio. My background includes more than 40 years in the property management and ownership industry. Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of House Bill 93.

I am a 5ft female senior citizen that provides (hopefully affordable) housing for 80+ families. I try very hard to keep the properties up with tenant repairs, pay the ever-rising taxes, mortgages (pd on for 30-40 years), insurances and unpaid rents.

But since the water company started these 'water forgiveness ' programs bills have skyrocketed into the tens of thousands of dollars. I have bills for \$4538, \$9477, \$8686, \$4493, \$1266, \$3233, and dozens of them in the high \$500s . There are no turn offs so the bills get astronomically higher whether the tenant is able to follow the program or not. It is just a license for the water company to Keep charging and hiking up the water bills, even beyond the worth of the home.

The current water bill system is another attempt to rob seniors of their retirement and their homes, after paying on the mortgages for 20-30-40 years.

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