Dear Committee Members,

My name is David Istanich and I am a housing provider in the Dayton area. I strongly support HB92 because of my experience with the Dayton Water Department and how they blatantly ignored water theft.

I had a resident continue to pay their rent but stopped paying their water bill. After four months, Dayton Water did actually come out and shut off service. The tenant actually turned it back on themselves. The water department came back out and turned it back off labeling them as water thieves and flagging the account. However, the tenant turned it back on again and then was allowed to use the water unchecked for 6 months! The water department never came back out, never put a lock on the street key box, never took further action to stop the water theft. They knew that once the tenant leaves the landlord or next owner would have to cover the bill.

I was left with a bill over $1,000 by the time the tenant moved out!

Ignoring illegal behavior to the financial harm of another citizen is a disgusting practice and should be stopped.

Please pass HB92 out of committee and move it along through the House so that housing providers like me can keep rental rates reasonable for our community.