

Thank you to Chairwoman O'Brien, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the committee for the time today. My name is Mark Asher, and I've been a housing provider for six years with properties in Miamisburg, Riverside, Kettering, and Dayton, Ohio. I enjoy my work and use it as a supplemental income for my retirement.

Even in my short six years, I've had multiple tenants leave behind unpaid water bills, which I, as the homeowner, was required to cover. Recently, I had one tenant leave a \$300 bill after attempting to flood the house, I luckily caught it early. Another left without notice, leaving a \$250 bill. These unexpected costs forced me to raise my rents to compensate for the losses. I can't absorb other people's bills.

Though AES and CenterPoint Gas do not hold landlords responsible, the water company does, adding an unfair burden. SB118 would correct this ridiculous practice and make everyone responsible for their own bills and bill collection.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my story, please vote SB118 out of committee.