
From: Lyle Quinn [REDACTED]
Sent: September 13, 2024 6:40 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Urgent need to address fixed-term lease loophole

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To The Honourable Barbara Adams
Chair, Law Amendments Committee
Attorney General and Minister of Justice
Provincial Secretary
Minister of Seniors and Long-Term Care

Minister Adams,

I hope this message finds you well.

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the current legislation governing fixed-term leases in Nova Scotia. As it stands, the existing loophole allows landlords to exploit these agreements in ways that undermine the stability and security of tenants across our province.

Fixed-term leases are intended to provide clarity and predictability for both parties involved. However, the loophole currently in place permits landlords to bypass the protections typically afforded to tenants under long-term agreements. This can lead to situations where tenants are faced with unexpected and often untenable circumstances, such as sudden eviction or exorbitant rent increases upon the expiration of their lease.

The consequences of this issue are significant. Many tenants find themselves in precarious positions, with limited options for recourse. The uncertainty created by these fixed-term lease loopholes contributes to a broader housing crisis that affects the well-being of countless Nova Scotians. For many, the stress and instability of not knowing whether they will have to relocate or face an unaffordable rent hike creates an environment of insecurity that is simply unacceptable.

I strongly urge your government to take decisive action to close this loophole. Implementing measures to ensure that tenants under fixed-term leases have similar protections to those with traditional long-term agreements would make a substantial difference in safeguarding the rights and stability of residents.

We are in a housing crisis; this government's failure to close this loophole would entirely highlight a laissez-faire attitude and comfort with not helping average Nova Scotians keep a roof over their heads — a basic human right. Closing this loophole is not just a legislative change; it is a crucial step towards

ensuring fair and equitable housing practices throughout Nova Scotia. It will contribute to a more stable housing market and provide the security that every tenant deserves.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter. I trust that your commitment to fostering a fair and supportive housing environment will guide your efforts to address this issue effectively.

Sincerely,

Lyle Quinn