

## **Testimony in Support of the Jillian and Lindsay Wiener Short-Term Rental Fire Safety Act**

For the record, I am writing to express my support for the Jillian and Lindsay Wiener Short-Term Rental Fire Safety Act. This bill is named for our friends' daughters, Jillian and Lindsay Weiner, who lost their lives in a fire at a short-term rental property. That tragedy was preventable. The smoke detectors in that home were not working—a basic safety feature that could have saved their lives.

No family should ever experience what they endured. No parent should have to bury their children because a rental property owner failed to maintain fundamental fire safety equipment. Jillian and Lindsay were not statistics; they were sisters, friends, daughters. They were the same ages as my sons—they all went to camp together and had a close bond. We had dinner with them shortly before they left for this family vacation—they were so looking forward to having time together just the 5 of them. The girls had bright futures ahead of them—proper smoke detectors could have saved their lives and allowed them to chase their dreams. Their names on this bill serve as a reminder that behind fire safety requirements are real lives—and real losses that could be prevented.

I urge you to pass this bill. This legislation addresses the gaps that claimed their lives. This is not regulatory overreach; it is basic responsibility. A working smoke detector takes minutes to install and costs far less than a human life. After this tragedy, I had a member of our local fire department come out and check our home's fire equipment—it was easy, free, and he was so happy to help us ensure our house had the proper equipment. When families rent short-term vacation homes, they trust that those spaces are safe. They should not have to fear that a rental property owner's negligence could claim their loved ones.

By passing the Jillian and Lindsay Wiener Short-Term Rental Fire Safety Act, you honor their memory. You tell other parents that their children's safety matters. You signal that rental property owners must be held to the standard of care their guests deserve. Please support this bill.