

My name is Lisa Sorkin, and I am a Maryland resident. I write in strong support of HB 1211, the Jillian and Lindsay Wiener Short-Term Rental Fire Safety Act.

I have known the Wiener family for more than a decade. Their daughter, Lindsay, played sports with my daughter. The tragedy that befell their family is unimaginable. And it was preventable. No family should ever again suffer like they have. HB 1211 would go a long way toward ensuring that result.

The Wiener Short-Term Rental Fire Safety Act would require a series of common-sense steps to protect short-term renters from fire safety hazards. In fact, it would require precautions that most of us employ or should employ in our own homes: information about how to evacuate the unit; who to contact in an emergency; working fire extinguishers; and functional and up-to-date smoke alarms that are audible throughout sleeping areas. Short-term renters have every right to expect that these basic protections, which likely exist in their own homes, will exist in homes they rent.

Please allow Maryland to be a model with respect to fire safety by voting in favor of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Sorkin