

329 Harvard St. #3
Cambridge, MA 02139

Cambridge City Council
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Dear Council Members:

I am unable to attend this meeting but I am writing to you because I feel so strongly about the condo conversion law in Cambridge.

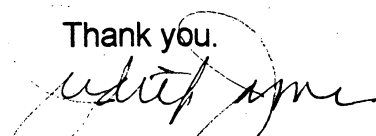
I have been a tenant in the same apartment in Cambridge for five years. I consider it to be my home; I attend school in Cambridge and work full time in Boston. I am a taxpayer, voter, and active member of the community. Recently I received a letter from my landlord informing me that I would be evicted from my apartment so that he could sell it as a condo. The letter gave no timetable nor did it indicate that I had any protections under the ^{state} condo conversion law.

Needless to say, it is a frightening experience for anyone to find out that they are being put out of their home for no reason of their own doing and at a timetable that they have no control over (or in this case, even any information about). My ^{state} landlord feels that the condo conversion law, because of some technicalities, does not cover him.

Although my reading of the ^{state} condo law indicates that I am still covered by it's protections, my landlord does not think so and it appears that I may be forced to fight this in court. Of course my landlord is wealthy and has the resources of a lawyer available to him, my funds are limited and this is a financial hardship to me.

It would be a great help to all the renters of Cambridge if the condo law could be strengthened and clarified so that renters could feel informed about their rights. Those of us who are not fortunate enough to own our homes still deserve a place to live and protection from sudden eviction. I urge you all to give consideration to your fellow citizens as you examine the condo conversion laws.

Thank you.



Judith James

Consent Communication #78

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A communication was received from
Judith James, 329 Harvard Street,
transmitting concern about the
condo conversion law in Cambridge.

In City Council July 27, 1998

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