

February 19

Chairman Mullin and Committee,

First: Thank you all for your support of S.73 at the Governor's press conference today. And especially thank you, Senator Mullin, for your ardent and accurate remarks!

Prompted partly by a brief talk there with Jeanne Kennedy, local lobbyist for the industry, I want to submit two thoughts:

1. It's often true that, if there's disagreement, it's good to look for a middle ground. In the rent-to-own case I want to urge that your bill *is already the middle ground*.

The way the rent-to-own business is intentionally set up is complicated. So our rules, if they're to be effective, need to be carefully constructed. Cede almost any, and our effort becomes tenuous, I think.

2. It's proposed that the bill take effect this July 1. I would urge that that be changed to July 1, 2016. Partly because the business will need time to adjust. But also because rules that are to take effect down the road seem more tolerable. (Or the tight deadline could be left as is and deferral held as a concession.)

With thanks and respect,
Byron Stookey