

January 2010

Dear Citizens of Wisconsin,

Last spring after my niece died in an automobile accident, her landlord would not release her from her apartment rental agreement. After two very stressful months, we managed to get the landlord to stop his attempts to collect rent payments from her parents. My niece was the soul signer of her rental agreement and was an excellent tenant who faithfully paid her rent.

We came to learn that this action by her landlord is not uncommon. For example, the landlord for murdered UW student Brittany Zimmerman also tried to enforce her lease after she died.

With our family's encouragement, State Representative Spencer Black has proposed Assembly Bill 543 which would make it illegal for landlords to pursue rent after a tenant dies. We are calling this "Andrea's Law" in her honor.

The bill is currently in the Wisconsin State Assembly Housing Committee awaiting further action. Your support can move this bill into law. **Please contact your state representative to voice your support for Assembly Bill 543.** You can do this by letter or by phone. To find out who your state representative is and how to contact him/her just go to this web site: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/w3asp/waml/waml.aspx>

We are learning a lot about the legislative process and one fact is that support from lots of citizens is really important. Please take a minute today to voice your support for Assembly Bill 543 and pass this information along to everyone you know who could help.

Thank you so much,

Barb Roeber

608-238-3795 for questions