

Chris O'Brien

From: Jill Culora <jillculora@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 3:37 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Re: H8183

To whom this may concern:

I understand that [H8183](#) could create a 5% tax on short term rentals (STR) in Rhode Island. I am against this tax because it seems misguided and short-sighted.

The state is already benefiting financially from the business generated by STR rentals in Rhode Island. All of my guests in the past year traveled to Rhode Island from out of state. This means they brought non-RI money into RI and spent it locally on dinners out, venue tickets, shopping and beach parking. In addition, the money that I earn from my renters gets spent locally on further improvements to my home, which will one day be my retirement home.

If the state imposes a 5% tax on STR, the same should apply to long term rentals - right? The big difference I see between STR and LTR is that I don't have children in the school system (that the municipality would need to pay for). And long term rentals would not be bringing out of state money into Rhode Island.

In addition, owners of STRs already pay state income tax on their STR income. So, I don't understand why the state would want to add a 5% tax burden. Seems more like a penalty to me that could stymie business and not encourage it.

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