

Chris O'Brien

From: Julia O'Halloran <johalloran58@cox.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 4:50 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: I OPPOSE H8183

Dear House Finance committee,

I strongly urge you to reconsider the 5% additional tax on short term rentals. I have experienced a sharp decline in bookings and have had to lower my rates and am still unable to book as I have in the past. The state of Rhode Island relies heavily on tourism and more so in Newport and Middletown. Another tax will further drive tourists to other states with less expensive lodging options for whole house and shared housing situations. In addition, our home assessments and property have risen substantially and we also pay the state and town sales tax and Middletown registration. Another 5% will be too much for tourists to pay.

Thank you for your consideration to not add additional taxes to short term rentals.

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