

Chris O'Brien

From: Taiji Saotome <tj@tlcandsonslc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 6:06 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: oppose Bill H-8183

To Whom It May Concern:

I own two properties in Portsmouth and Middletown that are used for seasonal short term rentals.

These properties serve the families who want to vacation or visit families in the area, without having to pay high fees of using hotels.

Those two communities are not currently served by national hotel chains.

My rentals, along with other similar rentals, provide valuable lodging options to those families.

I pay the RI lodging tax via AirBNB and the likes when guests book our cottages.

While I understand the rational behind the taxes, I am opposed to a blind taxation by any authority without clear stated purpose.

Until the comprehensive study of STR in RI is included by the legislature, I am opposed to this additional taxation.

If you need to reach out to me directly, please call my cell phone (401) 297-9261.

Sincerely,

T. J. Saotome