

I am opposing SB 621 and asking that the committee vote NO on the bill for the following reasons:

1. Local governments (cities and counties) should be ones that regulate VRDs. Especially since the rise of online booking platforms, many neighborhoods in coastal towns and unincorporated communities are becoming saturated with VRDs, with half or even up to 70-80% of houses being used for vacation rentals.
2. VRDs greatly disrupt community life and neighborhood character, with an endless round of short-term visitors who frequently have loud parties, cause parking and/or trash problems, and do not have care for the community itself. As a resident of Arch Cape, I can attest to that personally.
3. The current land-use laws give cities and counties legitimate and important government regulation. Supplying a variety of housing for residents and visitors, conducted under a statewide land-use framework, is an essential area of local regulation. This bill would hamper residents from being able to work with their local governments to limit VRDs to areas where they will do less damage to community livability, such as by allowing them in commercial, but not residential, zones.
4. A recent LUBA decision held that short-term rentals do not qualify as “needed housing” under state statute. Local governments need to have all the tools available to them to move towards what really needs to happen: increasing the supply of affordable housing.

FOR THESE REASON I ASK THE COMMITTEE TO VOTE NO ON SB 621

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