

I am writing to denounce Senate Bill 621, introduced by Sen. Girod, which would prohibit any local government from enforcing any ordinance restricting use of residential dwellings as a vacation rentals. This is absurd. Here in the Gorge both the City and the County have needed to regulate STRs because of the VAST outcry of residents here.

Using homes as STRs has noticeably worsened our crisis in both housing availability and affordability. This is a particularly intense problem in areas like the Gorge that are vacation destinations. It also undermines the quality of life in neighborhoods. If you have never had an STR on your block, count yourself lucky. It is often a loud nuisance, with renters behaving badly and without regard for neighbors.

I urge you to make sure SB 621 dies before it can hurt our communities.

Bonnie New
Hood River, OR