

I am in support of SB621, and to offer my full support in addition to the full support of the Oregon Coast Vacation Rental Alliance. I am a member of the Oregon Coast Vacation Rental Alliance representing an alliance of homeowners that participate as Vacation Rental Owners while we are not enjoying our properties. The city of Newport has decided to take away a portion of the vacation rentals in Newport (25%) and we are trying to protect our ability to continue to rent out our property.

We need your support!

This is my personal story:

Newport needs to stop the "Wild West" attitude of the planning commission. I agree that there have been some problems due to a lack of enforcement/rule following by a few bad apples. These problems can be remedied without rescinding our property rights! Our property is professionally managed and tenants are screened.

I am concerned about the economic ramifications to the area. Newport is alive and well partially due to tourism which feeds local families! We spend hundreds of dollars personally every time we stay at our home (vacation rental). Our guests also spend money here. I am aware that Newport receives grant money for tourism.

Referred to as "outsiders" (we live in Eugene) with mega mortgages, I take offense to the council's reference. We are dependent on the income from our vacation rental to continue to retire here someday. I don't think I will be able to keep my vacation rental due to the cost of the upkeep. We are licensed and pay our (expensive) property taxes!

In addition, the city has not shown adequate control over enforcement and even tracking lodging taxes. I feel that the city needs to step back and address the real issue: the enforcement of those property owners that are not following the rules by holding a business license or paying lodging taxes.

Thank you again, and please count me in as a supporter of this bill.

Krista