

Senator Chuck Riley  
Senator Fred Girod  
Senator Michael Dembrow  
Senator Mark Hass  
Senator Alan Olsen

March 4, 2019

Dear Senators,

RE: SB 621 - Prohibits local governments from restricting use of lawful dwellings for vacation occupancy.

We are very concerned Newport, OR vacation rental owners who rely on our rentals for crucial retirement income. We respect the quiet enjoyment of the neighborhood and have not had a single complaint filed against us. We use AirBNB & VRBO for professional help booking our rentals as well as collecting & disbursing room tax directly to Oregon State and Newport. We have paid nearly \$70,000 in State & local Room Tax this past 6+ years.

Since the City of Newport led us down the path to legally license and operate our vacation rentals in 2012, we invested 6 years of time, effort and money improving & developing our rentals. Our guests in turn support Oregon & Newport businesses with vital tourist dollars. Imagine our shock when Newport officials proposed the drastic measure to void the very vacation rental licenses they initiated & legalized, without even a concern about grandfathering licenses they issued years ago. Licenses we are now heavily invested in and rely upon.

Many tourist families will now only consider homes for their vacation rentals. Oregon and Newport officials have been wise and fortunate in their development of such a successful tourist destination. However, investment in tourism will not continue under the risk of license revocation at any political turn. In the name of fairness & economic stability, please pass this Vacation Rentals Bill - SB 621 to resolve this ongoing uncertainty. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
James and Lana Wetherill  
255 NW Cliff Street and  
1245 NW Spring Street  
Newport, OR 97365

cc: Laura Hines, Oregon Coast Vacation Rental Alliance  
Jackson Meredith, AirBNB Oregon