

March 4, 2019

TO: Senate Committee on Business and General Government

RE: SB 621

Please stop this bill in its tracks. There is no fundamental need to allow Vacation Rental Dwellings (VRD's) without restriction in any jurisdiction. Two basic reasons: 1) tourists are not a protected class; and 2) Vacation Rental Dwellings are not considered "needed housing" under Oregon's Land Use regulations

Oregon's Statewide Land Use Planning Goal 10: Housing, requires jurisdictions to ensure an adequate supply of land to ensure housing is available to meet the needs of its residents at different income levels. Rampant and uncontrolled growth of VRD's would conflict with this goal and violate the intent of Goal 10, making it virtually impossible for jurisdictions to comply with Goal 10 requirements for a 20 year supply of appropriately zoned land.

Communities in Oregon that are attractive tourist destinations are already grappling with the challenges of the "regulated" growth of VRDs. Low and moderate income individuals in many of these communities, who often work in industries that serve tourists, are often priced out of their own communities, even with VRD restrictions. The housekeepers, retail clerks, and restaurant workers who work in tourist serving businesses, are often unable to find housing that they can afford in their own communities, so they are often moving farther and farther away from their work, and likely increasing their transportation expenses

Please do not vote this bill out of committee. It makes a mockery out of Oregon Land Use laws.

Thank you for your consideration,

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