March 19, 2025

Chair Marsh Vice-Chair Andersen Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson Members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness

Re: House Bill 3848

I am writing in support of HB 3848.

Short term rentals contribute to housing problems across the state. They reduce the housing stock by using houses that might otherwise be owner-occupied residences or be traditional residential rentals. By reducing the housing stock, short term rentals increase the cost of both owner-occupied housing and traditional rentals.

HB 3848 by restricting the use of historic residences as short term rentals (dubbed "vacation occupancy" in the bill) is a small step toward dealing with this problem.

Short term rental is a commercial use not unlike a motel or a hotel.

Historic residences, especially those located within historic residential districts, should continue to be used as residential properties and should not be converted to a commercial use.

I urge your favorable consideration HB 3848.

Victor Dodier