

Dear State Rep and/or State Senator:

Re: MA Senate bill S2423 (section 67)

I would like to voice my strong opposition to legislation that would extend the lodging tax to private home rentals. Although this tax would bring immediate revenue to cities and towns, it could ultimately harm the tourism market, which in turn could bring down overall real estate values.

To make it perfectly clear:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATION TO IMPOSE A LODGING TAX ON PRIVATE HOME SUMMER OR SEASONAL RENTALS IN THE STATE.

A lodging tax on top of vacationers' rental payment could easily lead some to go elsewhere for their vacation. This would send exactly the wrong message to visitors at the same time that the Chamber of Commerce is trying to attract new visitors to the Cape and Islands.

Many vacationing families return to the same rental home every summer. A nearly 12% increase in their rent can be extremely disruptive to the repeat business that many homeowners rely on.

I urge you to strongly voice your opinion against section 67 of the Senate bill S2423. Let's protect the underpinnings of the Cape and Islands economy.

Best Regards,