



HOUSE STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE – Proponent Testimony, House Bill 563,  
March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the committee, thank you for holding this hearing and for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 563, which would ensure that short term rentals (STRs) are subject to the same regulations as long-term rentals, and eliminate the potential development of regulations that would place an outright ban on STRs. My name is Jeff Dillon, and I am the Ohio Legislative Director for Americans for Prosperity (AFP). As one of the largest grassroots organizations in the country, AFP is driving long-term solutions to some of the country's biggest problems. Our organization, and its thousands of activists across Ohio are dedicated to breaking barriers that stand in the way of people realizing their full potential. Removing these barriers, in whatever forms they take, helps move our society toward one of mutual benefit, where people succeed by helping others improve their lives and by transforming their communities.

AFP activists support HB 563 because this bill is designed to uphold Ohioans' property rights by preventing local governments from barring the use of lawful property to earn money through Airbnb, Vrbo, and other STR companies. Homeowners should be allowed to leverage their property assets through the supplemental income STRs can provide. Overly burdensome regulations related to housing, land use, and zoning makes housing and lodging options more costly and erects barriers to economic growth and geographic mobility. Addressing these local barriers through elimination, preemption, or application of regulatory reform principles can enable economic opportunity and improve the outlook for renters, homeowners, landlords, and borrowers.

An adequate supply of housing and lodging options is critical to the economic growth of successful communities and to overall social mobility; that supply should not be restricted by unnecessary barriers imposed by local governments. A market that can freely respond to consumer demand for housing and lodging options is a foundational element of a mutually

beneficial society. We support an institutional framework that breaks barriers to geographic mobility, where people are free to move to opportunities, build homes, form communities, and allows urban, suburban, and rural landscapes alike to evolve according to market forces, property rights, and entrepreneurship.

AFP would like to thank Representatives Fowler Arthur and Ferguson for sponsoring this commonsense, straightforward legislation. Thank you again, Chairman, for the opportunity to testify today and I will do my best to answer any questions that you or members of the committee may have.

*Americans for Prosperity (AFP) exists to recruit, educate, and mobilize citizens in support of the policies and goals of a free society at the local, state, and federal level, helping every American live their dream – especially the least fortunate. AFP has more than 3.2 million activists across the nation, a local infrastructure that includes 35 state chapters, and has received financial support from more than 100,000 Americans in all 50 states. For more information, visit [www.AmericansForProsperity.org](http://www.AmericansForProsperity.org).*