

As an Airbnb host for the past three years, I've impacted the surrounding community in ways I never could have imagined.

My cottage is in a depressed area along Lake Erie. Impacts include:

- 1) Providing great-paying (\$17/hr.+) part-time jobs to people who don't have other options
- 2) Helping my 91-year-old father who'd been struggling to pay his bills
- 3) Guests from thirty other states brought their tourist dollars to OHIO instead of seeking alternatives in Pennsylvania, Michigan, or Canada.
- 4) Local restaurants, grocery stores, pharmacies and retailers get out-of-the-area shoppers that would've otherwise never come.
- 5) Becoming a host provided the incentive and – more importantly - the funds to dramatically improve my property which would've otherwise fallen into disrepair
- 6) Income for local contractors and tradespeople
- 7) Contributions to local City and County governments in the form of city and county bed taxes and local income taxes.

Unfortunately, this success is under threat from the caprice of local government. I implore you to pass House Bill HB563 to save my business and many others like it.

I welcome the opportunity to meet with lawmakers virtually, by phone or in-person, to share more details of my story or to answer questions.

Sincerely,

Rick Ross