



PLAIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

2600 Easton Street NE, Canton, Ohio 44721-2655

Phone (330) 492-4689 · Fax (330) 492-5136

e-mail: general@plaintownship.com

Trustees

Scott M. Haws

(330)244-8477

Brook N. Harless

(330)244-8463

John A. Sabo

(330)244-8478

Fiscal Officer

Thomas Wolf

(330)493-1366

Departments

Administration

Administrator

Lisa Campbell

(330)492-4689

Finance

Director

Tina Biehl

(330)493-1366

Fire/Rescue

Chief

Charles Shalenberger

(330)492-4089

Road

Highway Superintendent

JP Neff

(330)492-3423

Parks & Facilities

Parks Director

Rob Steinberg

(330)492-4689

Zoning

Zoning Director

Tom Ferrara

(330)492-4686

March 1, 2022

The Honorable Scott Wiggam, Chair
State and Local Government Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: HB 563

Dear Chair Wiggam:

On behalf of the Plain Township Board of Trustees, I am writing to express the board's opposition to HB 563, which prohibits a county, township, or municipal corporation from adopting or enforcing any regulations, restriction, or other resolution that prohibits short-term rental properties or regulates the number, duration, or frequency of rental periods for short-term rental properties.

Short-term rentals undoubtedly affect the essential character of neighborhoods and the stability of a community by allowing transient occupancy in a residential neighborhood. Short-term rentals have little interest in the public agencies or the welfare of residents. Short-term residents do not participate in local government or activities that strengthen a community. They do not provide the consistency or neighborhood cohesiveness afforded by long-term residential properties. In Plain Township, we have been plagued by noise complaints that have involved our sheriff's office on many occasions as short-term rentals have become de facto party homes.

As a home rule township, we should have the ability to zone short-term rentals as the same classification as hotels or motels. They do not belong, nor do they fit into residentially zoned districts as they are a business venture. We do not allow businesses in residential districts and that is exactly what a short-term rental is.

Short-term rentals cause us to lose revenue because the "residents" do not pay hotel tax. As the bill stands, there is no requirement for a short-term rental to be registered with the township. We have no knowledge of its existence. The loss of bed tax, that visitors of a hotel pay, negatively impacts our local economy. This also creates unfair competition for hotels and motels that do pay bed tax.

In closing, on behalf of the Plain Township Board of Trustees, I would strongly voice Plain Township's opposition to HB 563.

Sincerely,

Plain Township Administrator

