

Dear Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Minority Member Kelly and Members of the Ohio House Committee on State and Local Government

On behalf of the Village Council and residents, we respectfully ask for your apposition to HB 563, which would eliminate the Home Rule provision of local government to restrict short term rentals in their communities.

The Village of Lakeline is located east of Cleveland on Lake Eire and was incorporated in 1929. One of the reasons it became a Village and enacted its early Ordinance was to eliminate the rental of properties along the lake for weekend parties.

Now that industry would like to eliminate the Village's 1929 Ordinance.

We are not opposed to Airbnbs as a business and we recognize that many cities are equipped with the infrastructure, safety services and other financial resources to regulate them. But smaller communities do not have the tax base necessary to accommodate this legislation. Our taxpayers support our levies, but they don't want to increase their taxes for the costs that this legislation will impose on the Villagers.

Our Village is frequently approached by both individuals and corporations who wish to buy lakefront properties and turn them into weekly party rentals.

Bachelorette parties have been the most frequently request lately, since these are a lucrative business for weekend parties on the lake.

The noise, parking, cars, litter and requests for police, are some of the reasons our residents oppose. It's not a case of NIMBY, but an inappropriate business in the Village. We are an older suburb with small lots. Even the bigger homes on the lake do not have large yards and neighbors are close to each other.

We have spoken to the bill's sponsor and appreciate her interest in our concerns, However, our legal counsel has advised that the bill's language does NOT protect us and the provisions of the bill will apply retroactively to our 1929 Ordinance..

Ohio is a wide-ranging state and Home Rule succeeds because it allows individual communities to apply legal protections based on their own spatial and geographic circumstances.

Thank you for your consideration

Debbie Neale
Mayor
Lakeline Village