

Hello Chair O'Brien,

As your constituent, I am grateful for your service and respectfully ask for your support of SB 104.

On January 23, 2024, I was forced to retire from my job due to a heart condition. Using the savings we had accumulated together, my wife and I purchased a home in the University District of our hometown, Columbus, Ohio. Our long-term goal is to move into this home, but in the short term, we need to use it as an Airbnb/short term rental to supplement our retirement income; this additional income is crucial for us to supplement our Social Security income since I was forced to retire sooner than planned.

Airbnb has been a wonderful partner in our endeavor. We love our neighbors and treat them, as well as our Airbnb guests, with the utmost respect. We have made numerous visual and structural improvements to our home, thereby increasing its value while enhancing the beauty of our neighborhood. The University District needs more short-term rentals, and we are helping to accommodate the many students and families who attend educational, sporting, and cultural events associated with The Ohio State University and the Short North. We direct many of our Airbnb guests to local restaurants and shopping centers, thereby supporting the local Columbus economy. We faithfully pay our monthly 5% city Airbnb tax as well. We consistently employ several hard working ladies who help us clean our home between guest rentals, often four times a month, and we pay them \$250.00 each time for their help.

Our Airbnb is rated as a five-star (top 1%) property because of how we treat our guests. Our next-door neighbors even requested to have their family stay in our Airbnb during this past Thanksgiving holiday in 2024.

We truly need to continue short term renting our home with Airbnb to supplement our retirement income. Doing so, affords us the dignity to continue to contribute to our local community as a still hardworking couple in our retirement. Our home, as an Airbnb, has been a win-win situation for our retirement, our neighbors, our guests, our employees and our local economy!

Senator Brenner, thank you for your time and concern.

Sincerely,

Timothy Buchanan