



## Village of Put-in-Bay

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Chairwoman O'Brien, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the Ohio Senate Local Government Committee,

My name is Judy Berry, and I am the Mayor of the Village of Put-in-Bay. I appreciate the opportunity to be able to write to you in regards to SB 104, sponsored by Sen. Brenner.

SB 104 is legislation which seeks to limit local government's ability to regulate short term rental properties, subject short term rental properties to a local government's lodging tax, and requires the collection and remittance of that tax by the short-term rental operator.

The Village of Put-in-Bay is concerned with the provisions of SB 104 that limit its ability to regulate short term rental properties located within its jurisdiction. The Village is experiencing a significant increase in the number of properties that are being used as short term rentals. This type of increase may not be unique, as other communities in Ohio are likely seeing an increase in this area as well. But Put-in-Bay is unique in that it is a seasonal resort area that is on an island. As such, it is critically important that the Village be allowed to regulate its short-term rentals in a way that supports not only lodging opportunities, but also provides safety for residents and visitors, retains the sense of community on the island, and provides housing for workers to support the various businesses on the island. It is important to note that what may work for the Village of Put-in-Bay in terms of regulating short term rentals, may not work for other communities across the state. In fact, Put-in-Bay is a good example of the uniqueness that exists in communities around Ohio, and the value that home rule provides to allow for those communities to function in a way that supports that uniqueness. We encourage the Committee to examine SB 104 through this lens, and to oppose any efforts that would erode the Village's ability to negotiate short term rentals based on the special characteristics of our island.

Madame Chair, members of the committee, thank you again for the opportunity to share our views on SB 104, and we would greatly appreciate your consideration of the points above as you continue your deliberations on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Judy Berry

Mayor, Village of Put-in-Bay, Ohio