

Testimony in Opposition to Senate Bill 104

Senate Local Government Committee

March 12, 2025

Chairwoman O'Brien and Members of the Committee:

My name is Debbie Neale and I am the Mayor of Lakeline Village. Please permit me to offer Opponent testimony against SB 104 on behalf of the Village Council and our residents.

Lakeline is a small, all-residential Village on Lake Erie about 20 minutes west of downtown Cleveland.

Lakeline was incorporated in 1929 as a Village for this very reason. The very first Ordinance passed by the Village Council in 1929 prohibited short-term rentals. Nearly 100 years later the residents remain firmly opposed to weekend party houses on the lake.

In addition to lowering the property values of homeowners, weekend party rentals result in increased calls to the police for disturbances and excessive noise. Much of our housing stock is older and there are no large lots. Many homes have only small or single garages and cannot accommodate additional cars, which must be parked on the lawn. Lake Shore Boulevard is a State Route, which prohibits street parking.

The Village has no objection to the Air BnB business. Many communities in our area are perfectly suited for this kind of commerce. They are multi-zoned with motels and hotels already in existence along with the safety services and infrastructure in place to easily accommodate weekend party rentals.

Lake County communities are united in their desire to see economic development throughout the region. One of the primary tools for business expansion is the availability of desirable and safe local housing. Residential communities such as Lakeline Village serve as a draw to bring business to the County so that future employees have a choice of housing.

Their security, and the peace of living along Lake Erie, are extremely important to our residents. They remain firmly opposed to the state precluding the Village's ability to preserve their property rights

Debbie Neale

Mayor, Village of Lakeline