

Deborah Collins, Association Manager for the Ohio Real Estate Investors Association

Senate Ways and Means Committee; Proponent Testimony SB43

March 4, 2025

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Roegner, Ranking Member DeMora, and members of this esteemed committee, my name is Deborah Collins, and I am the Association Manager for the Ohio Real Estate Investors Association (OREIA). OREIA engages on behalf of its 4,000 members statewide to support small businesses and pro-housing policy. As a real estate investor and small business owner for over 20 years, I thank you for this opportunity to comment on SB43.

In this new era of government accountability, I appreciate Senators O'Brien and Lang for introducing SB43 and demanding governing bodies stick to the promises they gave their constituents. Short term rentals have been an innovative addition to the lodging and tourism industry. As it emerges from its infancy to become a permanent travel option, this niche has seen significant government regulation, taxation, restriction and change. The visitors and operators in Ashtabula were promised a "temporary" tax and have been forced to continue to pay it beyond its originally planned dates. This type of bait and switch leads to market uncertainty and community disinvestment. I am glad to see Ohio legislators take a stand and demand a stop to this unethical practice.

Mr. Chair, thank you for your time. OREIA's members would appreciate your support of SB 43 with an affirmative vote.

Deborah Collins  
Association Manager  
Ohio Real Estate Investors Association